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by the World Bank Group
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U.S.-Europe dispute threatens main artery of world trade

By C. PIOVANO, L. COOK
Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — The trade wars threatening to push the global economy into recession are entering a new phase, with the United States and European Union escalating a dispute that endangers the world's biggest trade relationship. After the Trump administration slapped steep tariffs on \$7.5 billion in EU goods, mainly traditional produce like cheese and wine, the Europeans made clear they would retaliate in kind. Some fear the tariffs could ultimately lead to U.S. taxes on European cars, a big economic blow that Trump has been threatening to deliver for months.



Wheels of parmesan cheese are on sale with spirits in a deli in Rome, Thursday, Oct. 3, 2019.

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ACLU suit seeks damages for separated immigrant families

By **ASTRID GALVAN**
Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — The American Civil Liberties Union filed a federal lawsuit Thursday seeking potentially millions of dollars in damages on behalf of thousands of immigrant families who were separated from their children at the U.S.-Mexico border. The ACLU and other attorneys filed a lawsuit in Tucson against past and present Trump administration officials, alleging the government violated immigrants' rights and deeply traumatized an estimated

4,000 children who were taken from their parents after crossing the border illegally. Most of the families were from Central America and many were asylum-seekers. Family separations began on a large scale in early 2018 and were widely decried as inhumane. President Donald Trump ended the policy in June 2018 by executive order, and a federal judge in San Diego ordered the reunification of 2,700 children, although advocates say many more were separated. The government carried



In this Feb. 19, 2019 file photo, children line up to enter a tent at the Homestead Temporary Shelter for Unaccompanied Children in Homestead, Fla.

out family separations without a reunification plan in place. Thousands of parents weren't told where their children would be placed, and the federal agency that housed the kids after they were taken from their parents didn't always know that they had traveled with a parent. Chaos ensued when parents desperate to find their children couldn't track them down. In some cases, parents were deported without their chil-

Associated Press
dren. In this latest suit, the ACLU wants class action status, meaning if it wins, thousands of families who are not plaintiffs can also be compensated. Attorneys didn't list a dollar amount requested, but have also filed complaints with the Department of Homeland Security that seek \$3 million per family. Those complaints could be eventually tied into this lawsuit. "We think that the family separations was so extreme and

so unprecedented that if ever there was a case warranting damages, it's this one," ACLU attorney Lee Gelernt said. Gelernt said families who were separated deserve to be compensated for the trauma they suffered and that he hoped the money, if granted, would be used to get mental health assistance and so that families could "put their lives back together." A spokesman for the Department of Homeland Security said it doesn't comment on pending litigation. Child welfare experts have said family separation leads to lifelong trauma, especially in young children. In one case, a Guatemalan woman and her two sons, then ages 7 and 8, were separated after crossing from Mexico into Arizona in May 2018. The woman, identified in the lawsuit only as "Ana," didn't know where they were for three weeks, despite pleas for information. □

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U.S. vaping illnesses top 1,000; death count is up to 18

By **MIKE STOBBE**
AP Medical Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The number of vaping-related illnesses has surpassed 1,000, and there's no sign the outbreak is fading, U.S. health officials said Thursday. Doctors say the illnesses, which first appeared in March, resemble an inhalation injury. Symptoms include severe, shortness of breath, fatigue, and chest pain. Most who got sick said they vaped products containing THC, the marijuana ingredient that causes a high, but some said they vaped only nicotine.

The Centers for Disease Control and Pre-

vention said 1,080 confirmed and probable cases have been reported in 48 states and one U.S. territory as of Tuesday afternoon. The count includes 18 deaths in 15 states. More than a third of patients are under age 21, but the deaths have been older adults who apparently had more difficulty recovering. Recently, 275 cases have been added to the tally each week, and about half of the newest batch were people hospitalized in the last two weeks. "Unfortunately, the outbreak ... is continuing at a brisk pace" and there's no sign of it slowing, the CDC's Dr. Anne Schuchat said in a Thursday call with reporters. □

Finland agrees to return Native American remains to tribes

By SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN and FELICIA FONSECA
Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — The ancestral remains of Native American tribes that once called the cliffs of Mesa Verde National Park home will be repatriated as part of an agreement between Finland and the United States.

The White House on Wednesday announced the agreement involving the remains of about 20 people and 28 funerary objects taken from the Mesa Verde area more than 100 years ago. The remains and artifacts were unearthed during excavations by a Swedish researcher in 1891 and hundreds of items eventually became part of the collection of the National Museum of Finland. President Donald Trump and Finnish President Sauli Niinisto acknowledged the sanctity of the items to the more than two dozen tribes with cultural connections to the Mesa Verde region, best known for hundreds of stone dwellings that early inhabitants constructed in cliffsides, said U.S. Interior Secretary David Bernhardt. The agreement ensures the remains and items will be brought “to their proper resting place in the U.S,” Bernhardt said.

Clark Tenakhongva, vice chairman of the Hopi Tribe, said tribes hope to receive the collection by early next year and would ensure funerary items are buried with the remains in the general area where they were taken, accompanied by a ceremony.

“I know we’ll work together as the various tribes that have interest in them,” Tenakhongva said. “And how we process them will be the most carefully thought out plan so that we don’t do any more harm than what’s already been done.”

The exact burial location won’t be publicized to prevent the site from being disturbed.

“They need to be returned there so they can safely return to the spirit world, in the next world,” he said. “Hopi always believe, like most cultures and people, when you pass on you’re going to return to God or Jesus. And we return back to the hands of the creator who brought us here.” The agreement comes as U.S. lawmakers have pushed for legislation to ban collectors and vendors from exporting Native American ceremonial items. The proposal would close loopholes that have stifled efforts to retrieve Native American items that have shown up on the auction block in Paris.

In 2016, French dealers were forced to halt the sale of a ceremonial shield from Acoma Pueblo, a Native American village west of Albuquerque. Leaders from the New Mexico tribe said the shield was taken from their village decades ago. A federal court earlier this year called for the shield to be released to the U.S. Embassy in Paris so it could be returned.

Efforts to return the Mesa Verde remains and items started in 2016 when tribes associated with the park began working with the Finnish museum to identify the collection’s human remains and funerary objects. An inventory was completed last year. Federal officials must now craft a plan for the transfer of the remains and items to the tribes and pueblos.

The Hopi Tribe in northeastern Arizona was among those leading the repatriation effort. The other tribes with links to Mesa Verde include the Navajo Nation, which spans parts of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah; the Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute in Colorado; 19 pueblos, and the Mescalero and Jicarilla Apache tribes in New Mexico; and Ysleta del Sur Pueblo in Texas.

Navajo President Jonathan Nez said the agreement is



This May 5, 2018 image shows some of the pottery and other items crafted by Southwest tribes that are part of a display inside the visitor center at Mesa Verde National Park near Cortez, Colorado. Associated Press

a step in the right direction. longstanding issue that with including the Navajo “This is an unfortunate and many tribes have dealt Nation,” he said. □

Some in GOP want Trump inquiry but balk at impeachment talk

By SARA BURNETT

Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — They don't like the talk of impeachment, but there's a small and growing number of Republicans who want the Democratic-run House investigation of President Donald Trump to proceed. Several House Republicans have said in recent days that they want answers to questions about Trump's dealings with Ukraine's president. By contrast, Republican leaders in the House have vigorously defended Trump and accused Democrats of trying to undo the 2016 election. Trump has gone on the offensive, responding at times with name-calling of his critics and expletives. The handful of lawmakers who say they're "troubled" or concerned by the allegations account for a small fraction of the 197 House Republicans. Still, their comments represent thin cracks in what has been a solid foundation for Trump, a sign that some rank-and-file Republicans are unwilling to dismiss the inquiry



In this May 3, 2017, file photo, Rep. Fred Upton, R-Mich., left, speaks to reporters outside the White House in Washington.

Associated Press

as baseless. It's creating distance for them from the president as they consider the political consequences and wonder whether other damaging information may emerge. "I want to know what happened," Rep. Adam Kinzinger, R-Ill., said Thursday. But he and some others, including moderates in tight reelection races, say Democrats went too far by starting an impeachment inquiry. These lawmakers say that the process began before Democrats had all the facts and that their rush

will stymie progress on other issues and further divide the country. "You can get answers to those questions without raising the temperature as they have," said Kinzinger. He represents a safe Republican district in northern Illinois that supported Trump in 2016, though Kinzinger has at times criticized the president. Republican Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler, who represents a Washington state district that Democrats have targeted, said in a statement that the "allega-

tions are serious and efforts to get all of the facts demand continued transparency." She said that based on the rough transcript released by the White House of Trump's call in July to Ukraine's leader and a whistleblower's complaint raising concerns about the president's dealings with Ukraine, "the allegations of coercion remain unproven. No one is above the law, but for the sake of this nation we should all follow a process that does not put conclusions before facts." In that conversation, Trump repeatedly prodded Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy for an investigation of former Vice President Joe Biden and his son Hunter, while Trump's administration delayed the release of military aid to help Ukraine fight Russia-backed separatists. Lawmakers had little new to say Thursday after Trump seemed to flout the criticism by saying China should investigate the Bidens, too. After being read Trump's comments, Kinzinger said that he didn't have all the facts and that weighing in would be "exactly what I'm accusing the Democrats of starting an impeachment inquiry over." Rep. Don Bacon, R-Neb., said that Trump was "fighting back" and that the comments didn't amount to an impeachable offense. "He's countering what he sees as an unfair attack. But I don't think it's good for America. We need to de-escalate," he said. Bacon, a retired Air Force brigadier general who narrowly won his Omaha-centric district in 2018, has been treading carefully. "The Democrats ... some of them, not all of them ... it's been impeachment and resistance since Day One of the Trump administration," Bacon said this week, adding most Americans want to see Washington move beyond partisan gridlock. But he also said "it showed poor judgment to make these contacts to Ukraine,"

adding, "I think our president could do better. He's part of the animosity that gets spread out there. But he's also the recipient of a lot of it, as well." Last week, Rep. Mark Amodei, R-Nev., was forced to clarify his remarks after he was asked about the inquiry and responded by saying, "Let's put it through the process and see what happens." After calls from GOP leaders and posts on Facebook that called him a "traitor," Amodei said he was not endorsing the impeachment process but wanted House committees to investigate. Rep. Fred Upton, R-Mich., said he doesn't support the impeachment inquiry but does back efforts by House committees to investigate the whistleblower's allegations. "There are legitimate questions that have to be asked, and people are going to be required to answer them," said Upton, who has represented his southwestern Michigan district for more than 30 years. He won in 2018 by his smallest victory margin, and Democrats are eyeing the district again in 2020. Republican Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick, a former FBI agent who went to Ukraine on an anti-corruption mission for the FBI in 2015, called the whistleblower's complaint "a serious allegation" that provides a road map for witnesses to be questioned. But Fitzpatrick, who's seeking a third term in a perennial swing district based in suburban Philadelphia's Bucks County, has saved his toughest criticism for House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., saying she "needs to gather facts before making a decision like this." Upton, Fitzpatrick, Amodei and Herrera Beutler are among the targets of a \$1 million ad campaign from Republicans for the Rule of Law, a project of the anti-Trump conservative group Defending Democracy Together. The ads call on lawmakers to speak out against what they say is Trump's abuse of power. □

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\$500 a month for free: Data shows how people spent the money

By ADAM BEAM
Associated Press
SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — The first data from an experiment in a California city where needy people get \$500 a month from the government shows they spend most of it on things such as food, clothing and utility bills.

The 18-month, privately funded program started in February and involves 125 people in Stockton. It is one of the few experiments testing the concept of "universal basic income," an old idea getting new attention from Democrats seeking the 2020 presidential nomination.

Stockton Mayor Michael Tubbs has committed to publicly releasing data throughout the experiment to win over skeptics and, he hopes, convince state lawmakers to implement the program statewide.

"In this country we have an issue with associating people who are struggling economically and people of color with vices like drug use, alcohol use, gambling," he said. "I thought it was important to illustrate folks aren't using this money for things like that. They are using it for literal necessities."

But critics say the experiment likely won't provide useful information from a social science perspective given its limited size and duration.

Matt Zwolinski, director of the Center for Ethics, Economics and Public Policy at the University of San Diego, said people aren't likely to change their behavior if they know the money they are getting will stop after a year and a half. That's one reason why he says the experiment is "really more about story telling than it is about social science."



In this Wednesday Aug. 14, 2019 file photo Stockton Mayor Michael Tubbs discusses a program he initiated to give \$500 to 125 people who earn at or below the city's median household income of \$46,033 during an interview in Stockton, Calif.

Plus, he said previous studies have shown people don't spend the money on frivolous things.

"What you get out of a program like this is some fairly compelling anecdotes from people," he said. "That makes for good public relations if you are trying to drum up interest in a basic income program, but it doesn't really tell you much about what a basic income program would do if implemented on a long-term and large-scale basis." The researchers overseeing the program, Stacia Martin-West at the University of Tennessee and Amy Castro Baker at the University of Pennsylvania, said their goal is not to see if people change their behavior, but to measure how the money impacts their physical and mental health. That data will be released later.

People in the program get \$500 each month on a debit card, which helps researchers track their spending. But 40% of the money

has been withdrawn as cash, making it harder for researchers to know how it was used. They fill in the gaps by asking people how they spent it.

Since February, when the program began, people receiving the money have on average spent nearly 40% of it on food. About 24% went to sales and merchandise, which include places like Walmart and discount dollar stores that also sell groceries. Just over 11% went to utility bills, while more than 9% went to auto repairs and fuel.

Of the participants, 43% are working full or part time while 2% are unemployed and not looking for work. Another 8% are retired, while 20% are disabled and 10% stay home to care for children or an aging parent.

"People are using the money in ways that give them dignity or that gives their kids dignity," Castro-Baker said, noting participants have reported spending

children to prom, pay for dental work and buy birthday cakes.

Zohna Everett, 48, and her husband are among the recipients. When the experiment started she was unemployed and her husband was making \$110 a day as a truck driver. They were always late paying their bills, and the pressure caused problems with their marriage.

Once she got the money, Everett set it up to automatically pay bills for her electricity, car insurance and TV. She donates \$50 a month to her church and still has some left over for an occasional date night with her husband. And the extra income was enough of a cushion to allow her husband to pay off her wedding ring with their other income. □

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AP Exclusive: Colleges got millions from opioid maker owners

By **COLLIN BINKLEY** and **JENNIFER McDERMOTT**
Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — Prestigious universities around the world have accepted at least \$60 million over the past five years from the family that owns the maker of OxyContin, even as the company became embroiled in lawsuits related to the opioid epidemic, financial records show.

Some of the donations arrived before recent lawsuits blaming Purdue Pharma for its role in the opioid crisis. But at least nine schools accepted gifts in 2018 or later, when states and counties across the country began efforts to hold members of the family accountable for Purdue's actions. The largest gifts in that span went to Imperial College London, the University of Sussex and Yale University.

Major beneficiaries of Sackler family foundations also include the University of Oxford in England and Rockefeller, Cornell and Columbia universities in New York, according to tax and charity records reviewed by The Associated Press.

In total, at least two dozen universities have received gifts from the Sackler family since 2013, ranging from \$25,000 to more than \$10 million, the records show.

Some skeptics see the donations as an attempt to salvage the family's reputation.

"Money from the Sacklers should be understood as blood money," said Dr. Andrew Kolodny, a leading critic of the family and Purdue who has testified against the company in



In this Sept. 26, 2019, photo, people pass the Weill Cornell Medicine center in New York.

court and heads a program on opioid policy at Brandeis University, which was not among the schools identified in tax records as receiving donations from the Sacklers. "Universities shouldn't take it, and universities that have taken it should give it back."

Representatives of Sackler family members declined to comment.

The AP reviewed charitable giving from more than a dozen Sackler family foundations as reported to the Internal Revenue Service, the Canada Revenue Agency and the Charity Commission for England and Wales. The recipients included schools in the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada and Israel.

For decades, the family has been a major philanthropic figure in the worlds of art, medicine and education. They were listed by Forbes

magazine in 2016 as one of the nation's 20 wealthiest families, with holdings of \$13 billion. Much of their giving has fueled research in genetics and brain development. Other gifts supported medical schools, student scholarships and faculty jobs. It amounts to a small fraction of universities' overall fundraising, but schools say the money has been a boon to important programs.

When evaluating the ethics of Sackler gifts, some experts argue, it's important to consider what schools knew about the family and when they knew it.

"We're looking at this through the lens of what people know now," said Ross Cheit, chairman of the Rhode Island Ethics Commission and a professor at Brown University, which has accepted donations from the Sacklers. "My sense is, during the time

period we're talking about, people's views about that source of money changed — a lot."

As opioid deaths mounted, some schools joined with businesses and museums cutting ties with the family, but none plans to return the money. One school is redirecting unspent donations. Most schools refused to say whether they would accept donations in the future. The financial records may not capture all giving by the family. Colleges are not required to disclose donation information, and many refused to provide details to the AP.

Purdue Pharma, which recently filed for bankruptcy, separately provided research money to some schools. Unlike nonprofit groups, it was not required to disclose its giving in publicly available tax forms. Rockefeller University accepted more Sackler mon-

ey than any other school in recent history, receiving more than \$11 million from the Sackler Foundation in Canada. Most came from a single \$10 million gift in 2014. Smaller donations continued through at least 2017. Richard Sackler, a former president of Purdue Pharma, previously taught at the school.

Rockefeller, which enrolls about 200 students in graduate science programs, did not respond to requests for comment.

Behind Rockefeller was the University of Sussex in England, which received \$9.8 million, according to tax records. A university spokesman said the school actually received about \$4 million over the past decade, while another pledge "was not progressed." The funding supports Sussex's Sackler Centre for Consciousness Science, which performs research of "paramount importance" that will continue for years, the school said.

Sussex did not say how it would handle future gift proposal from the Sacklers. Oxford and the University of Glasgow in Scotland each received \$5 million to \$6 million, tax records show. Columbia University followed with nearly \$5 million, while Imperial College London and McGill University in Montreal each received more than \$3 million.

The AP contacted all universities that were identified in tax records as receiving more than \$1 million, along with some that were not listed in tax records but previously publicized major gifts from the Sacklers. □

Atlantic City mayor pleads guilty to stealing, resigns

By WAYNE PARRY

Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)

— Atlantic City's mayor pleaded guilty to stealing \$87,000 from a youth basketball team and resigned from office Thursday, becoming the latest in a line of corrupt city officials so long that it spawned a hit HBO TV series.

Frank Gilliam Jr. appeared in federal court in Camden, where it emerged that half of the amount of money he took from the Atlantic City Starz was recovered from his home when FBI agents raided it last December. He was released after posting a \$100,000 bond with the court.

By the close of the business day, the Democrat had resigned from office.

"It is with a heavy heart that I tender my resignation as the Mayor of the City of Atlantic City, effective immediately," Gilliam wrote in a letter filed with the city clerk. "My sincere apologies to each constituent that voted for me and had high hopes in my tenure." The resignation came as New Jersey officials began working to remove him from office.

Attorney General Gurbir Grewal said his office had filed papers in state Superior Court seeking to have Gilliam ousted under the state's Forfeiture of Public Office law. Gilliam, 49, also faced calls from New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy and other elected Democrats to resign.

City Council President Marty Small was expected to take over as acting mayor, city officials said.

At his court appearance, Gilliam told U.S. District Judge Joseph Rodriguez he stole funds raised from basketball team donors in Atlantic City and Philadelphia, using the money for personal expenses from 2013 to 2018. He was elected mayor in 2017 after serving as a city councilman.

"When a scheme depletes (a) charity for children, it's unconscionable," said FBI Special Agent in Charge Gregory Ehrie. "But when the fraud is perpetrated by

someone the public trusts, it damages the community's confidence in their public servants.

This defendant betrayed the trust of his community and of people who wanted to improve the lives of children."

Gilliam's lawyer, Harry Rimm, stressed that Gilliam admitted to taking private money, not public funds. That sets him somewhat apart from a long line of his predecessors accused of corruption, dating back to the turn-of-the-century Atlantic City officials whose malfeasance was chronicled in the HBO series "Boardwalk Empire."

"Mr. Gilliam, who is a life-long resident of Atlantic City, has admitted his wrongful conduct, is accepting responsibility for his actions and is genuinely remorseful," Rimm said in a statement issued after the court appearance.

U.S. Attorney Craig Carpenito said Gilliam solicited donations while a member of the City Council and then as mayor under the false pretense that they were for the youth basketball team or for school supplies for poor children.

In reality, the prosecutor said, Gilliam used the money for personal expenses including luxury clothing, expensive meals, and trips. In a speech several hours after Gilliam's guilty plea, Gov. Murphy called on the mayor to resign, calling his conduct "despicable." The city remains under state supervision due to its chronic budgeting and other problems.

"Atlantic City is a strong and resilient community that is on the rise after years of stagnation," Murphy said. "This progress can only continue with leadership whose sole focus is on what he or she can do for the betterment of all residents of Atlantic City and not for themselves."

FBI agents carried off numerous cardboard boxes and computer equipment during a raid of the mayor's home on Dec. 3, but they remained silent about why they were there and what



In an April 23, 2019 file photo, Atlantic City Mayor Frank Gilliam Jr. speaks at the Atlantic City Implementation Plan.

Associated Press

they had taken away. Gilliam could face 20 years in prison when he is sentenced Jan. 7.

He also agreed to make restitution for the fraud.

The mayor left his home early Thursday clutching his passport, and declined comment to reporters other than to say, "Have a good day."

Surrendering a passport is commonly done when a defendant faces federal charges to prevent him or her from leaving the country.

As recently as 2007, four of the city's last eight mayors had been arrested on corruption charges and one-third of the nine-member City Council was either in prison or under house arrest. □



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U.S.-Europe dispute threatens main artery of world trade

Continued from Front

The exchange echoes how the U.S. and China ratcheted up a tariffs fight in recent months that has bruised businesses around the world and stunted economic growth.

"This step triggers fears of a new round of escalation of tariff wars," said Alex Kuptsikevich, a financial analyst with brokerage FxPro. "The introduction of tariffs and fears of tit-for-tat steps could further suppress business sentiment, which is already at the lowest levels for years."

The Trump administration's latest tariffs target large aircraft but also many typical European products such as olives, whiskey, wine, cheese and yogurt. They will take effect Oct. 18 and amount to a 10% tax on EU aircraft and steep 25% rate on everything else.

The U.S. got the legal go-ahead Wednesday from the World Trade Organization in a case involving illegal EU subsidies for the plane maker Airbus and which predates the Trump administration.

But the EU is expecting a similar case involving U.S. subsidies for Boeing to go in its favor, with a ruling due in coming months.

It has said it hopes the two sides can hold off new tariffs, which economically amount to taxes on domestic importers. Sometimes importers pass on the higher costs to consumers, making goods more expensive.

"If the U.S. imposes countermeasures it will be pushing the EU into a situation where we will have to do the same," said the European Commission's spokesman, Daniel Rosario, echoing the dark outlook expressed by many EU governments.

"This is a move that will first and foremost hit U.S. consumers and companies and will make efforts towards a negotiated settlement more complicated," he said.

A group of American alcohol importers, wholesalers, distributors and others released an open letter this week urging an end to the tariffs.

They say tariffs on Scotch



In this June 18, 2015 filephoto, an Airbus A380 takes off for its demonstration flight at the Paris Air Show, in Le Bourget airport, north of Paris.

Associated Press

whisky, liqueurs and wine would affect nearly \$3.4 billion in imports and cost 13,000 U.S. jobs, including truckers and bartenders. Mindful that the tariffs do not actually come into effect for a couple weeks, Rosario stressed that the EU is still open to talking.

The tariffs come on top of existing ones that the U.S. and EU exchanged last year and multiply the headaches for European businesses fretting over Brexit, which could see Britain leave the EU on Oct. 31 without a deal - meaning new tariffs overnight on the heavy flow of trade across the Channel.

More broadly, the tariffs add to uncertainty for the global economy, which has been hit particularly hard by the U.S.'s wide-ranging dispute with China over trade and technology.

The U.S. and European economies are more closely integrated than the U.S. and China, with companies heavily invested across borders, so the potential damage from an escalation could dwarf the dispute with China.

Total U.S. investment in the EU, for example, is three times higher than in all of Asia.

And EU investment in the

U.S. is eight times that invested in China and India combined. The two sides account for about half of the world economy.

Rising uncertainty over one of the oldest and biggest economic trade paths would further darken the outlook for exporters and manufacturers, which are already cutting down on investment.

The head of the Spanish Federation of Food and Beverage Industries, Mauricio García de Quevedo, said the new U.S. tariffs will make it harder for the companies he represents to compete internationally. And that will contribute to job losses, he said, without providing detail.

The United States is the Spanish sector's second biggest food and beverage client after the EU, according to the federation. The sector exported 1.7 billion euros (\$1.9 billion) last year.

Miguel Blanco, the secretary-general of Spain's farming sector umbrella group COAG, representing more than 15,000 Spanish farmers and livestock breeders, said the tariffs are "completely unfair and overblown."

"Once again, the farming sector is going to pay for an EU trade war which

has nothing to do with the Spanish countryside," Blanco said, according to Europa Press.

The Federation of French wines and spirits exporters also deplored the U.S. decision.

Antoine Leccia, president of the federation, said "we don't feel at all initially involved in this litigation so we feel we are a bit hostages of these retaliatory measures."

"We regret that this country, the United States, a country we worked with for many years, a country that increased its wine consumption and French wine imports now adopts such measures," he added.

In Germany, which has Europe's largest economy and focuses heavily on exports, the federation of industry said the U.S. was using the WTO ruling to intensify trade disputes.

U.S. President Donald Trump has threatened in the past to impose tariffs on European cars, a huge sector in Germany, and some fear this week's escalation could lead to that.

Joachim Lang, the head of the Federation of German Industries, said "there is a risk that many industries on both sides of the Atlantic will find themselves in a lose-lose situation." □

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Civilian employee kills 4 in knife attack at Paris police HQ

By SYLVIE CORBET and LORI HINNANT

Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — A civilian employee raged through Paris police headquarters with a knife Thursday, stabbing four police colleagues to death before he was shot and killed, French authorities said.

The man, a technology administrator in the police intelligence unit, launched the attack in his office then moved to other parts of the large 19th century building across the street from Notre Dame Cathedral.

Three of the people he killed were police officers, the fourth an administrator, the Paris prosecutor said.

An officer stopped the attack when he shot the assailant in the compound's courtyard, said a police official. The official was not authorized to talk publicly about the case and requested anonymity.

The employee who carried out the attack had worked for the city's police force since 2003 without ever arousing concerns, French Interior Minister Christophe Castaner said.

"There were no warning signs," Castaner said.

"This man was known inside the computer department, he worked alongside his colleagues and never presented any behavioral difficulties," he added.

Paris prosecutor Remy Heitz said authorities opened a murder investigation, for the moment ruling out a terrorism inquiry. He said the 45-year-old assailant's home was being searched. Three of the victims were men and one was a woman, Heitz said. A department employee wounded in the rampage underwent emergency surgery Thursday afternoon, Castaner said.

Emery Siamandi, who works

at police headquarters, said he was in the stairwell leading to the chief's office when he heard gunshots.

"I told myself, this isn't right," Siamandi said. "Moments later, I saw three police-women crying. I couldn't help them in any way, and their colleagues were crying, too, so I figured it must be serious."

He said he saw one officer on his knees in tears.

"It's the worst scenario possible, an internal attack with colleagues working together," said Philippe Capon of the UNSA police union.

Capon cautioned against jumping to conclusions on the motive and said, "Nothing can be ruled out, including a personal issue."

French media reported the employee carried out the attack with a ceramic knife.

The attack came a day after thousands of officers marched in Paris to protest



Police officers stand guard outside the Paris police headquarters, Thursday, Oct.3, 2019 in Paris.

Associated Press

low wages, long hours and increasing suicides in their ranks.

President Emmanuel Macron stopped by police headquarters to show solidarity with officers and department employees, his office said.

The neighborhood where the police compound is located, a busy tourist destination, was locked down,

the Cite metro stop was closed and the bridge between Notre Dame and the headquarters building was blocked off.

Extremists have repeatedly targeted French police in France in recent years. In 2017, a gunman opened fire on the Champs-Elysees boulevard, killing one officer before he was shot to death. □

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Pakistan, Afghan Taliban call for resumption of peace talks

By **MUNIR AHMED**

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Senior Afghan Taliban leaders and Pakistani officials on Thursday called for the resumption of talks on a peaceful resolution to the war in Afghanistan.

The appeal, made during a rare Taliban visit to Islamabad, comes after months-long U.S.-Taliban negotiations collapsed in September and President Donald Trump announced the talks with the insurgents were “dead.”

The timing of the Taliban visit — which coincided with that of Washington’s special peace envoy for Afghanistan, who was also in Islamabad on Thursday for “consultations” with Pakistani officials — appears to indicate Pakistan is seeking to help restart the talks.

In a statement, Pakistan’s Foreign Ministry said both sides agreed Thursday that the peace process should be resumed as soon as possible.

Also on Thursday, Trump was asked at the White House about Pakistani of-



In this photo released by the Foreign Office, Pakistan's Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi, center, receives members of Taliban delegation at the Foreign Office in Islamabad, Pakistan, Thursday, Oct. 3, 2019.

Associated Press

officials calling for the talks to resume. The president was noncommittal about whether they would, saying the Taliban’s standing with him had not yet been restored from when he called off the talks amid a surge in violence that he claimed the Taliban had orchestrated to increase their leverage at the negotiating table.

“We have a real problem,” Trump said, without elaborating. “We’ve been hitting the Taliban very, very hard.

As far as I am concerned, they still haven’t recovered from killing 12 people — one who happened to be a great American soldier from Puerto Rico. They still have not recovered (their standing) and they probably never will.”

Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi met with the 12-member Taliban team, headed by Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, a co-founder of the Taliban and head of their political office in Qatar. The

Pakistani side also included intelligence chief Lt. Gen. Faiz Hameed, foreign secretary Sohail Mahmood and others.

TV footage showed Hameed hugging members of the Taliban delegation, including Baradar, who was released in 2018, years after he was detained in a joint operation carried out by Pakistan’s Inter-Services Intelligence and the CIA. He was released to facilitate the peace process in Afghanistan.

Earlier, in a Foreign Ministry statement, Qureshi “reiterated Pakistan’s commitment and continued strong support” for all efforts aimed at resolving the conflict in Afghanistan. It

said that during the talks, it was “emphasized that reduction of violence by all parties to the conflict was necessary to provide an enabling environment for resumption of the peace process at an early date.” Qureshi told reporters the Taliban would meet with U.S. envoy Zalmay Khalilzad, who was also in Islamabad, though he didn’t say when such a meeting would take place.

“Khalilzad is here and he has been in talks with them. He is fully aware of each and everything (being said) and has played a positive role in this process. God willing, he will also meet with (the Taliban),” he said. □

Ukraine’s president defends election in rebel-held east



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy speaks to media during his press conference in Kyiv, Ukraine, Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019.

By YURAS KARMANAU and VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV
Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukraine’s president on Thursday strongly defended agreeing to hold a local election in the country’s rebel-held east and vowed that the vote will be free and fair.

Ukraine, Russia and mediators Germany and France on Tuesday signed a tentative agreement with Russia-backed separatists on general guidelines for holding a local election in eastern Ukraine, where a five-year conflict between the separatists and Ukrainian troops has killed more than 13,000 people.

Some in Ukraine saw the agreement as a capitulation to Russia, and hun-

dreds of people rallied outside Zelenskiy’s office in protest. Zelenskiy said in a televised address Thursday that the local election in the eastern regions known as Donbass would not be held “under the barrel of machine guns.” He promised to ensure that the vote follows Ukrainian laws and includes candidates from Ukrainian political parties.

“Donbass is part of Ukraine and peace must come there,” Zelenskiy said.

He criticized his opponents for trying to make a “bug-bear” of Tuesday’s agreement, saying it was just a necessary intermediate step to organize a summit with the leaders of Russia, France and Germany to discuss ways of ending the war. □

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Nigeria's leader in South Africa after attacks on foreigners

By **MOGOMOTSI MAGOME**
Associated Press

PRETORIA, South Africa (AP)

— South Africa's president on Thursday said "early warning mechanisms" will be put in place to avoid the kind of deadly attacks on foreigners that angered many African countries and led to an extraordinary airlift of Nigerians, while Nigeria's visiting leader again condemned such violence as "unacceptable."

What originally was planned as a business meeting between Africa's two largest economies turned into talks by Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa on how to calm the unrest that has erupted regularly in South Africa in recent years.

South Africa has been making efforts to mend ties with Nigeria and others after its government faced criticism for not explicitly speaking out against xenophobia at first but in-

stead framing the violence as crime. Ramaphosa on Thursday again stressed the need for immigrants to obey local laws but called the xenophobia "regrettable."

More than 12 people were killed and more than 700 arrested after bands of South Africans in Johannesburg and the capital, Pretoria, launched attacks against foreign-owned shops and stalls, looting and burning the small businesses and attacking some shopkeepers.

Nigeria's foreign minister called the attacks "sickening" and the government recalled its high commissioner to South Africa. South Africa temporarily closed its diplomatic missions in Nigeria, citing concerns over staff safety. In Nigeria's megacity Lagos, operations of South African telecommunications giant MTN were targeted in retaliatory attacks.

South Africa's president now says his government

is "totally committed" against attacks on foreign nationals. He acknowledges frustration about the country's high unemployment and sluggish economy but has told countrymen not to take it out on foreigners.

It was not immediately clear how the "early warning mechanisms" to avoid further unrest would work between South Africa and Nigeria. Buhari said police and intelligence forces in both countries should be alert to avoid further violence.

The periodic attacks against Nigerians and citizens of other African nations include accusations by South Africans that foreigners are peddling illegal drugs or taking jobs.



Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari, left, and South Africa's President, Cyril Ramaphosa, shake hands as they meet after a welcoming ceremony in Pretoria, South Africa Thursday, Oct. 3, 2019.

Associated Press

The attacks on Nigerians led some in Nigeria to call for the closure of South African companies doing business in the West African

powerhouse — a move that would create instant pain for a bilateral relationship that saw more than \$3.3 billion in trade in 2018. □

25 dead after extremists attack army camps in central Mali

By **BABA AHMED** and **AR-SENE KABORE**

Associated Press

BAMAKO, Mali (AP) — Al-

Qaida-linked groups attacked two army bases in central Mali, killing at least 25 people and leaving 60 missing, Mali's government said Tuesday.

Assailants rode into the community of Boulikessi with heavy weaponry overnight Sunday to Monday to attack a Malian battalion of the regional G5 Sahel Force, said a force commander, Niger Gen. Oumarou Namatou Gazama. He blamed "the terrorist group" Ansarul Islam.

Mali's government said that after exchanges of gunfire, the army had retaken Boulikessi, killing at least 15 extremists and destroying five of their vehicles. It said a joint force with Burkina Faso soldiers was pursuing the extremists behind the attacks. The attack on the camp caused "heavy equipment losses

and major damage," Malian government spokesman Yaya Sangaré said earlier in a statement.

Around the same time early Monday, armed men attacked another army camp in Mondoro.

A resident there said two civilians were among the casualties. He spoke on condition of anonymity because of fears for his safety. Meanwhile, nearly 30 people have been killed in Burkina Faso's Bam province the past two weeks, including 17 over the weekend, according to the provincial high commissioner, Ambrose Ouedraogo. The violence in the municipalities of Zimtenga and Bourzanga has displaced nearly 19,000 people in the past three days, he said.

Extremists have gained a larger foothold in Burkina Faso's north in the past few years, staging more attacks near its borders with Mali and Niger. Hundreds have been killed. □



ANNOUNCEMENT Yom Kippur

In observance of the holy day of Yom Kippur all CMB branches will be closed on **Wednesday, October the 9th, 2019.**

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Demonstrators clash with the police during a protest against elimination of fuel subsidies announced by President Lenin Moreno, in Quito, Ecuador, Thursday, Oct. 3, 2019.

Associated Press

By GONZALO SOLANO

Associated Press

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) — Ecuador's president declared a state of emergency Thursday to confront rowdy street protests and a nationwide transport strike over his decision to end government fuel subsidies and relax labor protections.

Nineteen people were arrested during unrest in major cities, authorities said.

Protesting transport workers blocked streets and highways and attacked some colleagues who tried to continue working. Police used tear gas to disperse crowds.

Public transport in major cities and between provinces was virtually shut down, forcing many people to walk long distances to get to work.

In Quito, university students tried to march to the government headquarters in the historic part of the city. Some wielded clubs and threw stones at police, who

blocked their advance.

The decree by President Lenin Moreno suspends some civil rights and allows authorities to commandeer public or private property. He said he acted because of violent incidents meant to "damage and destabilize" his government.

Moreno said there was no possibility he would back away from the measures announced Tuesday that will raise fuel prices across the country. He said fuel subsidies had done "too much harm to the country."

The price of regular gasoline has increased by about 24% to \$2.30 a gallon (3.7 liters), while diesel has more than doubled to \$2.27 a gallon. Even with the price increases, Ecuador has some of the cheapest fuel prices in the world.

Moreno also announced tax breaks for companies and other measures that he said would stimulate an economy burdened by high debt. □

3 killed in attack on Nicaragua indigenous community

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — Nicaraguan authorities say an attack on an indigenous Miskito community has left houses and a church torched and three people dead.

Police say the community of Masmalaya was attacked by armed men on Wednesday. One resident and two attackers died in the clash.

The National Police said in a statement Thursday that eight people were arrested and an assault rifle and three vehicles were recov-

ered. Wooden homes and an evangelical church were burned.

In recent years, residents of indigenous communities along the northern Caribbean coast have reported sometimes-violent incursions by outsiders who take over land and begin cutting trees.

In response to previous attacks, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights called for protective measures and asked the government to protect the indigenous residents. □



In his July 24, 2019 file photo, a Statue of the Republic covered in Russian gold and donated by President Vladimir Putin stands in the Capitol building in Havana, Cuba.

Associated Press

AP Explains: Why does Dmitry Medvedev's visit to Cuba matter?

By ANDREA RODRÍGUEZ

Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev arrives Thursday in Cuba, which was long the former Soviet Union's principal ally in Latin America. The visit is seen by some as confirmation of a new closeness at a time when the island is going through a new economic crisis while under new pressure from the United States. Here's a look at the visit and changes in their relations:

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF THE VISIT?

Cubans are looking for the two-day visit to bring accords that will benefit the island's oil and transportation sectors, two areas hit hardest by the current crisis. A statement from the Russian government this week signaled that the countries will sign accords and commercial agreements, though no specifics were given.

Russia is one of Cuba's most important trade partners, after Venezuela, China, Spain and Canada. Medvedev, who is making his third trip to Cuba, is scheduled to meet with Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel, tour an energy project on the outskirts of the capital and see restoration work on Havana's

emblematic capitol, whose golden dome came thanks to a donation from Moscow.

IN WHAT CONTEXT IS THE TRIP COMING?

Although it was scheduled well beforehand, Medvedev's arrival coincides with a toughening of U.S. sanctions on Cuba. One recent measure was the creation of a blacklist of shipping companies to punish those that deliver petroleum.

Cuba produces about 42,000 barrels of oil a day, but it has a daily deficit of 62,000 barrels that is filled primarily by Venezuela, also a close partner of Russia.

Shortages have since mid-September provoked long lines at gas stations, problems with public transportation and increased use of animal-powered vehicles. There have also been prolonged shortages of food and other goods.

Washington's stated objective is to suffocate the island economically, pressuring for a change to Cuba's political system and, in addition, sap Venezuela's socialist government of an ally.

WHAT IS THEIR TRADE RELATIONSHIP?

Trade between the two countries is expected to reach \$500 million in 2019,

Russian Vice Prime Minister Yury Borisov said in September.

At that time, it was announced that both governments would sign a "roadmap to modernize the energy system" of Cuba. Among the plans, apparently, was a contract through which Cuba would reduce by a third its purchases of petroleum supplies from abroad, the Sputnik news agency reported. There was also talk of an agreement involving three island thermoelectric plants.

Another area for Russian participation is agriculture, a Cuban sector that was a pillar of trade with the Soviet Union in the 1970s and 1980s.

The island needs to import machinery for irrigation and harvesting as well as heavy equipment and supplies.

In September, the first Cuban-Russian mixed company was formed for the manufacture of construction materials, to be located in the Mariel special commercial zone west of Havana.

Andrei Slepnirov, director of the Russia Export Center, told Sputnik on Wednesday that other projects under study include modernizing Cuba's state rail company and maintaining the fleet of Russian airliners flown by Cubana de Aviacion. □

Expedia Group:

New Study Reveals Technology Investment Priorities for Hotels

Chain hotels 77% more likely to increase technology investments, while independent counterparts prioritize room renovation



MEXICO CITY – According to a new survey of more than 1,200 hoteliers by Expedia Group, the world’s travel platform, chain hotels are nearly twice as likely as small independent properties to prioritize technology investment. Alternatively, small independent properties are 1.5 times as likely as chain hotels to prioritize room renovations – indicating a gap in technology investment strategies among different hotelier segments.

Reliance on technology is becoming increasingly important in the lodging industry as hotels begin to recognize how they can gain key competitive advantage with strategic technology investments. According to the latest report by Hospitality Technology, 54% of hotels plan to increase their technology budgets for 2020, while only 8% plan to decrease. However, cost continues to be the key barrier with technology adoption for many hoteliers, with nearly half of the small independent hotels surveyed indicating that technology investment decisions are based on affordability and value. In contrast, more than half of the chain ho-

tels prioritize technology that seamlessly integrates with their existing systems. “We’re witnessing chain hotels place significant investments in technology, which opens the potential for a greater divide between properties that are not able to match those investments,” said Freddy Dominguez, Vice President, Market Management, Latin America at Expedia Group. “Technology has the power to level the playing field for hoteliers of all sizes. We continue to listen to our partners’ needs and invest in how best to serve all our partners so even the smallest of properties can compete effectively and find opportunities to succeed.”

Among the small independent hotels surveyed, 1 in 4 cited complexity as their biggest challenge when adopting technology, with 1 in 3 saying ease of use is a priority when evaluating solutions. To remove these barriers, Expedia Group is making enhancements to its platform so partners not only have the right resources whenever and wherever they need it, these solutions are delivered through intuitive and easy to use tools.

“Operating a small property means juggling multiple responsibilities. Expedia Group understands this and they have developed some fantastic technology. In particular, the convenience of the Partner Central mobile app makes it so easy for me to update my rates and availability and manage my guests while I am on the move,” said Joel Grossman, Consultant Sales and Marketing at Bay View Suites Paradise Island, Bahamas.

Recently, the company released new user-friendly features on Expedia Group Partner Central platform to further streamline everyday tasks and provide suppliers

instant access to relevant information so they can make real-time, informed decisions. New, enhanced features include:


- Partner Central Mobile App improvements – a series of upcoming enhancements will make managing rooms and rates easier with modified calendar navigation, the ability to view inventory and availability and make real time updates to reduce errors. Suppliers can also receive mobile notifications for bookings, cancellations, guest messages and prioritize with easy to use filters.
- New “Rooms and Rates” overview page – the simplified view streamlines information and tasks

related to rooms, rates and inventory. The new page reduces the number of links and helps suppliers determine where to take action with business alerts and high-level insights.


- New “Marketing” overview page – suppliers currently using marketing tools will see reporting on their results, while suppliers that are not will be educated on the various tools available to influence their availability and increase conversion. The page brings the top five countries with the greatest booking opportunity and raises awareness of their property within the marketplace.

Continued on Page 14

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National Risk Assessment by the World Bank Group

ORANJESTAD — A team from the World Bank Group was in Aruba to assist the authorities with the National Risk Assessment on Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing.

The assessment aims to identify the primary money laundering and terrorism financing (ML/TF) risks in Aruba through a comprehensive analysis that will enable the design of a comprehensive AML/CFT strategy to mitigate the identified risks. This will help allocate resources for the fight against money laundering and terrorism financing more effectively and efficiently, while meeting the international standards issued by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).



The risk assessment process itself is organized, led and undertaken by the local authorities using the World Bank Group's self-assessment methodology. The assessment is undertaken

in collaboration between the different Aruba government agencies and the local private sector.

Having a National Risk Assessment and AML/CFT strategy in place is essential for the upcoming 4th round AML/CFT assessment of Aruba by the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF) in the third quarter of 2020. □

Travel Tips



1. When checking-in, you will always need your valid passport, along with your ticket, e-ticket receipt or e-ticket confirmation. For some countries a Visa is also required.
2. For all US-bound departures, check-in three hours before your scheduled departure time.
3. For all US-bound flights, after check-in, leave building through the exit on the left side of building; follow the signs and head towards local immigrations, main security screening, shopping area and the departure gates. Aruba Airport provides full US Pre-Clearance service.
4. For all Non US departures, check-in may vary between airlines and destinations; always consult your airline for more information. Being at the airport 3 hours before your departure flight is always safe.
5. For all Non US flights, after check-in, leave building through the exit on the right side of building; follow the signs and head towards Local immigrations, main security screening, shopping area and the departure gates.
6. If traveling with a carry-on, there are restrictions on liquids, gels and aerosols you can carry in your carry-on luggage. Always check with your airline on limitations.
7. Always check the weight limit of your baggage; excess weight may result in penalty fees.
8. Always label your bags and suitcases with your name, address and phone number.
9. Always leave all carry-on items unlocked while passing through screening points to not cause delays if these need to be inspected.
10. Avoid wearing big belt buckles, clothing with metal buttons, lots of jewelry etc. when traveling. If you have these on, remove all metal items and place these in a tray for screening. It is advisable to put all metal items in your carry-on luggage until you clear security. This will help speed up the process.
11. Remove shoes at checkpoint and place in tray for x-ray machine screening.
12. All electronic items should be placed in tray outside their case for x-ray screening.
13. Avoid packing foods and beverages in your check-in baggage. When traveling to the US, you have to comply with the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. More information <https://www.usda.gov/>.
14. If traveling with medication, please pack these in your carry-on luggage in their original packaging.
15. If you medical documentation, present this to the security checkpoint screener to inform them. The documentation is not required and will not exempt you from the screening process.
16. Take note of inadmissible items such as sharp objects, sporting goods, guns and firearms, martial arts and self-defense items, tools, explosive materials, flammable items, disabling chemicals and other items when traveling. More information available on www.airportaruba.com.

Expedia Group

Continued from Page 13

- New adaptive home page – designed to provide customized recommendations for partners based on their current familiarity with Partner Central. This personalized experience that enable suppliers to identify certain time-sensitive tasks they should take to accelerate booking potential on Expedia Group's marketplace. This will be made available to majority of properties at the end of the year.
- Multi property portfolio dashboard – provides a portfolio snapshot for suppliers managing two or more properties.

The dashboard indicates the list of accommodations associated to the user, provides insights for each property and signals when and where action is needed.

Lodging partners can learn more about Expedia Group Partner Central on Discover EPC and download the Partner Central Mobile App.

Methodology

The study polled 1,215 global hotelier participants in July 2019 for a choice based study to determine how hotel properties are prioritizing their technology investment spend. The study leveraged Expedia Group's global hotelier panel in order to compare technology spending between chain hotels and small independent properties. Chain hotels are classified as properties self-selected as part of a chain affiliation or group of properties with more than 100 rooms, while small independent properties are classified as properties with no chain affiliation and 100 rooms or less. □

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KFC introduces the Double Down Sandwich



ORANJESTAD — Kentucky Fried Chicken (KFC) launched their newest special this week: a Double Down Sandwich for only 8 Aruban Florins, about 4 and a half USD. The sandwich consists of two pieces of chicken breast, no bread, two slices of Monterey Jack Cheese, bacon and BBQ sauce. There is also the possibility to make it a combo for 13, 50 Aruban Florins (USD 7, 7).

With the combo you get a small French fries portion and a soft drink included. Instead of the French fries you can pick another side: mashed potato, cole slaw, biscuit, corn on the cob or rice. KFC continues renovating their products and extending their menu to offer the community a quality product coming fresh from KFC's kitchen.

During a press conference at the newest location of KFC Aruba in Boulevard, marketing representative Johana Jacobs-Alvarez Blanquicet explained to the local press what this great bang for the buck deal is all



about. "The place where you get your favorite chicken, sandwiches, snacks, sweets and sides will now offer you a grab to go sandwich." Aruba has four KFC locations, all ready to welcome you. KFC has delivery service also!

Some History

KFC is an American fast food restaurant chain headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky, that specializes in fried chicken. It is the world's second-largest restaurant chain after McDonald's, with 22,621 locations globally in 136 countries as of December 2018. Whether you call it KFC or Kentucky Fried Chicken, the restaurant that made founder Colonel Sanders a household name is one of the world's big-

gest and most successful fast food chains. The blend of 11 herbs and spices that went into Sanders' original fried chicken recipe is still in use today, and its components remain a mystery, even though many have tried to decipher it (some claim to have reverse-engineered the recipe, while writer William Poundstone famously asserted that it's only flour, salt, pepper, and MSG). A Sanders-signed copy of the recipe is inside a vault in KFC's Louisville headquarters, and even the manufacturers don't know what goes into it: Half of the mix is made by Griffith Laboratories, and then it's sent to McCormick, where the rest is added.

For more information: Facebook KFC Aruba. □

Tuscany Residence Aruba: Standing Out with 100 % European Materials & Standards



NOORD — “Quality convinces”, says Bas de Groot, Managing Director of Tuscany Residence Aruba. “We differ from traditional building, come on over and see for yourself.” At an A-location, designed in an European style with high-quality materials, on property land and with buying possibilities from condos to townhouses to villas, Tuscany Residence is your dream come true. And the safest investment.

Within 2.000 feet of the Palm Beach area, which is the place to be in the island, and a 15-minute drive to Oranjestad, we find Tuscany Residence. The residence (total project contains +/- 180 units) offers 8 luxurious Townhouses in beautiful Dutch design up to 2.098ft Property land and a total 1.582ft living space. 36 Condos located in three buildings are a wonderful vacation escape or a great investment, it is up to you. What about 8 amazing 2-Layer & 3-Layer Villas with 50m2 pool, stunning Dutch architecture and allure? The landscaping in front of the houses is taken care of, keeping the value of the project intact. There is 24-hours security by camera's and a night guard.

Quality Lays Beneath

Tuscany Residence Aruba chose for European quality products to provide owners with the best durable purchase and low maintenance costs. “Windows and doors are from Mexim, originally a Belgium product, the concrete comes from The Netherlands, the bathrooms are delivered by Banjolux and the kitchen provided by Eurokitchen. All these suppliers are known for their high quality service and products and have their representative companies on the island too. We go 100 % for European standards meaning you will have a guarantee of a long-term relationship that is durable, eco-friendly and trustworthy,” Bas explains. It is not only what the eye meets when you consider an important purchase like real estate, it is essential to know what lays beneath. “And very important to mention that this is property land, one of the last opportunities to achieve that in this area. Even better within a residence that keeps your value up, you never know what your surroundings will be like when purchasing outside of a residence.”



Unique Details

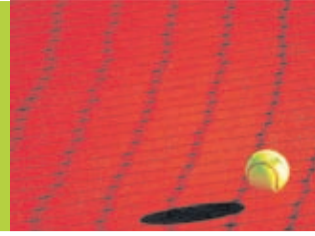
The design of the residences town houses, condos and villas is modern but warm with exceptional details like the stick-out window panes. “These provide shadow on the windows, preventing the strong heat of the sun coming in while maintaining the light flow.” Lots of windows and sliding doors make the light come in and because of the use of poured concrete walls the isolation is at its best. “Everyone is welcome to see the materials and construction themselves, we can show everything here at our location. You may even pick your land.” October 1st will be the delivery of the townhouses and community pool. In November four more town houses will be ready and the first villas are already in construction, aimed to be accomplished in March 2020. From the eight town houses six have already been sold, the condominiums go very well too and the villas are in demand, says Bas. “Prices will go up in the future, so now is the time to buy while we still have our pre construction prices running.”

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SPORTS



In this Feb. 28, 2019, file photo, Olympic champion snowboarder Chloe Kim flies through the air on her second run during the women's halfpipe semifinals at the U.S. Open Snowboarding Championships, in Vail, Colo.

Associated Press

AP Exclusive: Kim takes snowboard season off for studies

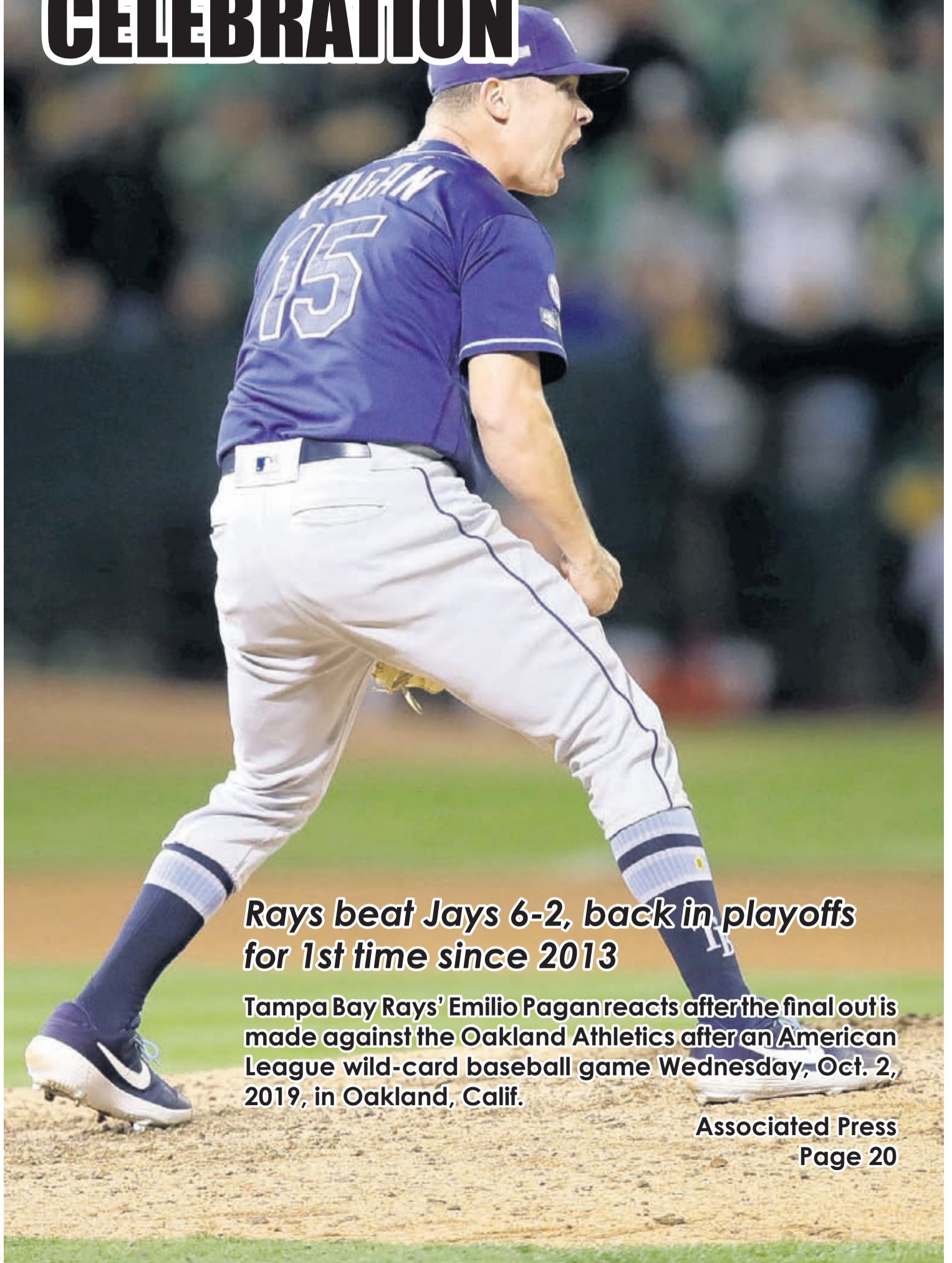
By E. PELLIS and P. GRAHAM
AP Sports Writers

Do not despair, snowboarding fans: Chloe Kim is not retiring. She is taking a season off from competition and training though — she has already started school at Princeton — in a move that she said was difficult but, ultimately, the thing she needed to do.

"This isn't like, an 'Oh-my-gosh, I'm retiring video,'" the champion snowboarder said on a YouTube video provided to The Associated Press in advance of its wider release. She'll be back in training next May, with plans to defend her Olympic halfpipe gold medal at the 2022 Games in Beijing. "But I'm sure a lot of you guys can relate when you get stuck in the same routine over and over and over again, year after year after year, and it gets pretty hard," Kim said. "And I felt like I lost a part of myself, in a sense, where I didn't feel like I had an actual life outside of snowboarding."

Continued on Page 23

PAGAN CELEBRATION



**Rays beat Jays 6-2, back in playoffs
for 1st time since 2013**

Tampa Bay Rays' Emilio Pagan reacts after the final out is made against the Oakland Athletics after an American League wild-card baseball game Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2019, in Oakland, Calif.

Associated Press
Page 20

Love it: Husband-wife win silvers in stunning night at track

By **EDDIE PELLIS**

AP National Writer

DOHA, Qatar (AP) — None of them could believe it.

Not the woman who pulled off the biggest upset of the world championships.

Not the woman she beat.

And certainly not that second-place finisher's husband — decathlete Maicel Uibo, who walked away with a silver medal that was almost as big a surprise as the one his wife is taking home.

On a warm-and-fuzzy kind of night at the track where nothing went quite as expected, Olympic champion Shaunae Miller-Uibo suffered her first loss in the 400 meters in more than 25 months despite shattering her personal-best time by more than half-a-second. The woman who beat her was 21-year-old Salwa Eid Naser of Bahrain, whose time of 48.14 seconds was the fastest since 1985 and the third fastest ever.

When Naser crossed the finish line and saw her time, her jaw dropped in a look of utter amazement — a far cry from Miller-Uibo's stony glare at the scoreboard: How could she run 48.37 and lose?

"I still can't believe the time," Naser said. "When I saw the time, I went completely crazy. I was training so hard but I never expected to run this fast."

But this Thursday night at Khalifa International Stadium was a night for expecting the unexpected.

Uibo, the decathlete, certainly didn't come out of nowhere, but neither was he at the top of the list of medal candidates.

Since winning the NCAA title competing for Georgia in 2015, he had never captured an international decathlon competition. At the last worlds, in 2017, he didn't finish. At the Olympics in 2016, he finished 24th. He was coming off leg and shoulder injuries that had forced him to miss a big chunk of 2018-19, and that had turned his javelin throw into a crap shoot.

But midway through the second day of the 10-event endurance test, world re-



Salwa Eid Naser, of Bahrain, reacts to winning the gold medal in the women's 400 meter final at the World Athletics Championships in Doha, Qatar, Thursday, Oct. 3, 2019.

Associated Press

cord holder Kevin Mayer got bounced after failing to record a mark in the pole vault, while another top contender, Lindon Victor, met a similar fate in the discus throw. Meanwhile, Uibo had been slowly climbing up the standings, from sixth, to fifth, to third, to first.

He had a 19-point lead over the eventual winner, Niklas Kaul, when he lined up for the finale, the 1,500-meter race. Uibo needed to hang within 3 seconds of Kaul to win the gold. But Kaul's personal best was 10 seconds faster than Uibo's. Kaul, 21 and now the youngest world champion decathlete ever, beat him by 15 seconds.

"I tried to stay with him, but he had more in the tank," Uibo said. "I had to give that up and try for second." A few minutes earlier, Brit-

ain's Katarina Johnson-Thompson completed her victory in the heptathlon; the multi-events were held in conjunction as part of organizers' plan to move all the action to the nighttime and beat the heat.

In the other final, China's Gong Lijiao won her second straight world shot put title and Jamaica's Danniell Thomas-Dodd took silver. That marked the third field medal in these championships won by athletes from Usain Bolt's land of sprints. Who'd have seen that coming? And speaking of unexpected, how about the bronze medal that landed in the lap of Orlando Ortega.

The Spanish hurdler had been closing the gap with the leaders when he got knocked off course in the 110 final the night before

by a flailing Jamaican. Ortega spent most of Thursday in bed, thinking about what might have been. The phone rang. Track officials had decided to make him the co-bronze medalist. The ceremony was scheduled for that evening.

"I took a taxi," Ortega said. "I said, 'Please drive very fast, I have a medal ceremony.'" He made it on time. So did Naser, who looked more like a 100-meter sprinter as she moved into the homestretch and built a seven-step cushion over Miller-Uibo, who became famous in her homeland, the Bahamas, when she dove across the finish line to beat Allyson Felix in the final of the 2016 Olympics. There were no such dramatics this time.

"When I saw the distance between us, I said, in my

head, 'I let her get too far away,'" Miller-Uibo said. "I knew I had a lot of strength coming home, but I just couldn't get her."

All that was left was to hang out and see how Maicel would do about a half-hour later, as he dragged his exhausted legs to the start of the 1,500 to finish off the evening.

Shortly after her husband crossed, Miller-Uibo walked out and doused him with a bottle of water, then gave him a kiss.

"It's great we get to celebrate together," Miller-Uibo said. They train together, too. Maicel described the relationship as "competitive at times."

"It's on and off the track. Anything, really," he said. "Sometimes we just argue about who our dogs love most." □

MLB average attendance down 1.7%, hurt by losing teams

By RONALD BLUM
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Major League Baseball's average attendance dropped 1.7% this year for its fourth straight decline, and five of the six biggest drops were by teams with losing records.

Toronto, Seattle, San Francisco and Detroit combined for more than 1.8 million fewer tickets, and a 259-388 won-lost record. The 30 teams averaged 28,339, according to the commissioner's office, down from 28,830 last year — the first time the average was below 30,000 since 2003. Total attendance of 68.5 million was down more than 5 million from 2015.

The players' association maintains attendance has been hurt by an increase in rebuilding teams, which its members and staff label "tanking."

"The willful failure of too many franchises to field competitive teams and put their best players on the field is unquestionably hurting our industry," union head Tony Clark said last week. Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred says rebuilding is cyclical and attendance and record correlate in some markets but not all. He also points out the success of the sport in television ratings and an increase in minor league gates.

"We're going to draw 68-plus million people at the big league level," Manfred said, "another 41 million in minor league baseball — they're actually going to be up. I'll take 110 million people going to see the sport live. That's a really, really awesome number in an environment where people have more and more and more alternatives to consume."

Toronto had the biggest home attendance drop, falling 575,137 in a season in which the Blue Jays went 67-95 for their third straight losing season and most losses since 1980.

Seattle fell 507,769 as the Mariners went 68-94, their

poorest record since 2011. San Francisco went down 448,425 and ended a streak of nine consecutive seasons at 3 million or more that coincided with three World Series titles. The Giants went 77-85 in their third straight losing season. Detroit dropped 355,540 while going a big league-worst 47-114, the second-most losses in team history. The Tigers' 1.5 million home attendance was their lowest since their 119-loss season in 2003.

Washington, which earned an NL wild card and beat Milwaukee to reach the Division Series, fell 269,823 following the departure of Bryce Harper to Philadelphia as a free agent.

Baltimore dropped 256,385 while going 54-108, and the Orioles' 1.3 million fans at home were their fewest in a non-shortened season since 1978 at old Memorial Stadium.

In all, home attendance dropped for 14 of the 30 teams, although three of those teams fell by less than 100,000, Miami rose by 198 people to 811,302 while going 57-105 in Derek Jeter's second season as chief executive.

Kansas City went down by 185,448 and fell below 1.5 million for the first time since 2006.

On the plus side, Philadelphia rose 569,297 after signing Harper and despite an 81-81 record finished



In this Monday, Aug. 26, 2019 file photo, Fans watch play among empty seats during the second inning of a baseball game between the Miami Marlins and the Cincinnati Reds in Miami.

Associated Press

above 2.7 million for the first time since 2013, when the Phillies started a streak of six straight losing seasons. Minnesota went up 334,955 boosted by a 101-61 record, the second-most wins in team history, San

Diego went up 227,863 after signing free agent slugger Manny Machado but skidded to a 70-92 record. The New York Mets went up 217,537 boosted by an August spurt and their first winning record since 2016. □

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Diaz hits 2 homers, Rays beat A's 5-1 in AL wild-card game

By JANIE McCAULEY

AP Baseball Writer

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) —

When he got to second base, Yandy Diaz stole a glance back toward the dugout and saw all his teammates going crazy. He gleefully kept running. Out for two months, no matter.

Diaz slugged baseball's lowest spender into a play-off matchup with mighty Houston, Charlie Morton silenced the powerful Athletics on the mound, and the Tampa Bay Rays beat Oakland at its own game with a 5-1 win in the AL wild-card round Wednesday night.

After playing only one game since late July because of a foot injury, Diaz hit a leadoff homer and went deep again in the third inning.

"When I looked to the bench and saw the guys super excited, it pumped me up to go around the bases," Diaz said through a translator. "I thought we had to carry that momentum throughout the game." Avisail Garcia hit a two-run drive in the second, and Morton had all the support he needed as Tampa Bay advanced to face the AL West champion Astros in a best-of-five Division Series. Game 1 is Friday at Hous-



Tampa Bay Rays' Yandy Diaz watches his solo home run against the Oakland Athletics during the third inning of an American League wild-card baseball game in Oakland, Calif., Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2019.

ton, which piled up a major league-best 107 wins this season.

"We have a tough road ahead of us, Houston's a great team, but we played them well this year. It's going to be a dogfight," Tommy Pham said.

Pham homered in the fifth for the 96-win Rays, who had the smallest payroll in the majors at \$66.4 million. And in a playoff meeting between creative, small-budget teams that make the most of limited resour-

es, it was Tampa Bay that came out on top.

The Rays were unfazed by a towel-swirling Oakland crowd of 54,005 that established a wild-card record, having recently played at Dodger Stadium and on the road against the Yankees and Red Sox during the season's final two weeks.

"I really feed off the energy of this situation. I that helped us," Morton said. "It helped us to come in here and be in a high-pressure

situation. The stadium was pretty rowdy but I think that helped us focus."

And when Marcus Semien struck out to end it, Tampa Bay players raced out of their dugout to celebrate and put on fresh playoff T-shirts and caps. Once in the clubhouse, the Rays drenched Morton with booze.

"It's a beautiful thing having the lowest payroll in baseball and having the success we did," center fielder Kevin Kiermaier said before the game. "It always feels good to stick it to the man any time you're able to in this game, and that's something to be very proud of."

The A's have lost nine straight winner-take-all games since 2000, going 1-15 with a chance to advance to the next postseason round. Their only win came in 2006 against the Twins before being swept in the AL Championship Series by the Tigers.

A year ago in the wild-card game, Oakland's first time back in the playoffs since 2014, the A's fell behind fast and lost 7-2 at Yankee Stadium. They won 97 games again to earn a wild card. This game had a far different feel in the familiar, friendly confines of the Coliseum, but the A's dug themselves another quick hole.

And the visitors were the ones putting on a happy home run show this time. Oakland, which hit a franchise-record 257 homers, is 0-6 in winner-take-all play-off games at home since 2000.

Even a day earlier, Rays manager Kevin Cash wasn't sure Diaz would play given how much time he missed during the season's second half.

Diaz returned for the finale last Sunday at Toronto after being sidelined since July 23. He played in just 79 games this season, 22 of those at first base with 17 starts.

"He probably caught us off guard a little bit with how quickly he turned around over the last five, six days," Cash said.

Never one to shy from the unorthodox, the Rays used four outfielders against Matt Olson — Cash started Diaz at first to make sure his best bat against lefties was in the lineup.

Kiermaier noted Diaz is "just one of those guys, he just wakes up out of bed and rakes. Everyone knows him for his muscles and what he can do in the weight room and stuff like that, but the guy finds the barrel so much throughout this whole season, and any time we're able to have him available, we're happy."

Morton, with a career-high 16 wins and his best ERA yet of 3.05 this season, counted on his playoff experience giving him an edge. He won Game 7 of the ALCS and World Series for the Astros in 2017.

Morton gave up five hits without an earned run over five innings. He struck out four and walked three in his seventh postseason start and eighth appearance, having spent the last two seasons with Houston.

The right-hander walked Mark Canha to load the bases with two outs in the first before retiring Jurickson Profar on a flyball and had already thrown 32 pitches. Morton quickly settled in and once his turn was done, the Rays' shutdown bullpen did the rest. □

Trout, Verlander, Yates win Baseball Digest awards

NEW YORK (AP) — Mike Trout has been chosen major league player of the year by Baseball Digest and eBay.

The star outfielder from the Los Angeles Angels edged Dodgers slugger Cody Bellinger by two points in voting by a 17-member panel of baseball writers, broadcasters, former players and executives.

Houston Astros ace Justin Verlander was selected pitcher of the year and San Diego Padres closer Kirby Yates got picked as the top reliever.

The awards were announced Thursday. Trout also won in 2014.

Trout set a career high with 45 home runs even though his season ended early. The two-time AL MVP didn't play after Sept. 7 because of a foot injury. He batted .291 with 104 RBIs and ranked second in the majors with a 1.083 OPS. Verlander, also a two-time winner, led the big leagues with 21 wins and 223 innings pitched. He was second in the American League with 300 strikeouts and a 2.58 ERA. The right-hand-



Houston Astros starting pitcher Justin Verlander waves to fans as he walks back to the dugout after striking out Los Angeles Angels' Kole Calhoun for his 3,000th career strikeout during the fourth inning of a baseball game Saturday, Sept. 28, 2019, in Anaheim, Calif.

Associated Press

er tossed his third career no-hitter and became the 18th pitcher to reach 3,000 strikeouts. □



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Bears star Khalil Mack prepares for reunion vs. Raiders

By JOSH DUBOW
AP Pro Football Writer

Khalil Mack delighted the Oakland Raiders for four seasons by racking up sacks, forced fumbles and other big plays as one of the NFL's top defenders.

Now he gets the chance to torment them 13 months after the Raiders traded their most productive draft pick of this century to Chicago following a lengthy contract holdout.

"Vindictiveness. I like that word," Mack said of his approach to Sunday's game in London for the Bears (3-1) against Oakland (2-2).

"Yeah. Yeah. I mean, that's the whole point man. You can't play this game with too much emotion, man. Ultimately, I try to stay focused on the task at hand and understanding the situation and understanding what they're going to be thinking that I feel. But ultimately, I'm going to go out there and do what I do and that's play football and love the game that I play. You know what I mean?"

The Raiders drafted Mack fifth overall in 2014, a round before taking quarterback Derek Carr. The two became tight and vowed to bring Oakland back to respectability after years of losing.

They managed to put together a 12-win season in 2016 when Mack won AP Defensive Player of the Year and Carr was an MVP candidate. But Carr broke his leg in the penultimate game of the regular season and Oakland lost in the wild-card round to Houston.

The Raiders stumbled to a 6-10 record the following year and Mack then held out of training camp in the first season under coach Jon Gruden while seeking a long-term contract



Minnesota Vikings quarterback Kirk Cousins (8) fumbles the ball as he is sacked for a 7-yard loss by Chicago Bears outside linebacker Khalil Mack, right, during the second half of an NFL football game Sunday, Sept. 29, 2019, in Chicago. The Bears recovered the fumble.

and ultimately was traded to the Bears for a package that included two first-round picks.

"That's my brother, I love him to death, everyone knows that," Carr said. "He's one of my best friends. We'll be friends when we are all old and hopefully him with kids. I'm trying to nudge him in that direction, but this week it's different. We are competing against each other."

Carr knows it won't be easy dealing with Mack, who is a menace as a pass rusher. He has 17 sacks and 10 forced fumbles since joining the Bears last season compared to a Raiders defense that has just 18 sacks and eight forced fumbles from the entire unit.

As challenging as the matchup will be, Carr views it as no different than when he faces other great pass rushers such as Denver's Von Miller.

"I'm not going to be dropping back looking at Khalil. I don't drop back and look

at Von, sometimes those guys just make great plays that's why they are Hall of Fame players," he said. "You just have to drop back, be on time with your throws and get the ball out, whether it's down the field, whether it's intermediate or short, whatever the play dictates."

Here are some other things to watch:

FEATURED BACK

The Raiders turned the first pick they got for Mack into running back Josh Jacobs, who is making a big impact as a rookie. Jacobs has rushed for 307 yards and two TDs, added three catches for 57 yards and leads all rookies in yards from scrimmage after four weeks.

"I think both teams are winning the trade," Carr said. "I think if you can get Khalil Mack on your team, you're winning, and if you can get Josh Jacobs on your team, you're winning. I think that's the best way to do it."

CHASE'S CHANCE

With quarterback Mitchell Trubisky unavailable because of a left shoulder injury, Chase Daniel will make his third start in two seasons with Chicago. The 10-year veteran completed 22 of 30 passes for 195 yards and a 10-yard touchdown to Tarik Cohen.

Daniel combined to go 53 of 76 with 515 yards, three touchdowns and two interceptions in two starts last season — a win at Detroit and loss at the New York Giants.

"You know, we played a good game with him last week," said Allen Robinson, who had seven catches for 77 yards last week. "So I mean he's a guy we're familiar with, that we've gotten rep before, so it's not like it's an unfamiliar face."

MAN IN THE MIDDLE

The Raiders have a big hole in the middle of their defense after middle linebacker Vontaze Burfict was suspended for the rest of the season for a helmet-to-helmet hit last week against

Indianapolis' Jack Doyle. Burfict was brought in for his deep knowledge of coordinator Paul Guenther's defense and had helped the team cut down on communications breakdowns that were too frequent last year. With Burfict gone, Tahir Whitehead will take over as signal caller.

DEPTH ON DEFENSE

The Bears showed last week their defense can work even though they were missing starters Akiem Hicks (knee), Roquan Smith (personal reasons) and Bilal Nichols (broken hand).

Chicago held Dalvin Cook to 35 yards after he ran for a league-leading 375 through the first three games and sacked Kirk Cousins six times. Nick Williams and Roy Robertson-Harris combined for 3½ sacks, and linebacker Nick Kwiatkoski had one.

LONDON CALLING

The Raiders have been frequent international travelers in recent years, moving five home games out of the country in the past six seasons. While they split their two contests in Mexico City in 2016 and '17, London hasn't been nearly as kind to them.

They lost 38-14 to Miami in 2014 and fired coach Dennis Allen right after that.

They lost 27-3 to Seattle last season when they spent most of the week back home before arriving two days before the game. This year, Gruden opted to spend the entire week in London.

"I learned a valuable lesson that we needed a little more time to get acclimated," Gruden said. "I'm used to playing home games at home, so I made a mistake and tried to correct it this year."

Hopefully it shows on the field. □



St. Louis Blues goaltender Jordan Binnington watches the game-winning goal by Washington Capitals' Jakub Vrana, of the Czech Republic, during the overtime of an NHL hockey game, Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2019, in St. Louis. The Capitals won 3-2.

Associated Press

Capitals beat Stanley Cup champ Blues in OT in opener

By The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Jakub Vrana scored at 2:51 of overtime to give the Washington Capitals a 3-2 victory over the Stanley Cup champion St. Louis Blues on Wednesday night in the opener for both teams.

Vrana beat Jordan Binnington with a wrist shot to the upper corner for his first point in five career games against the Blues.

Alex Ovechkin and Dmitry Orlov also scored, and Braden Holtby made 21 saves for the Capitals.

Sammy Blais and Alex Pietrangelo scored for the Blues, and Binnington made 31 saves. The Blues raised their Stanley Cup banner during a pregame ceremony that featured a video of members of the team celebrating with the cup during the offseason and highlights of the postseason run.

MAPLE LEAFS 5, SENATORS 3

TORONTO (AP) — Auston Matthews scored twice in Toronto's four-goal second period against Ottawa.

Matthews gave Toronto a 3-2 lead at 8:02 of the second and made it 4-2 on a power play with 5:10 left in the period. He has nine goals and two assists in the four season-opening games, starting with a four-goal game against the Senators in his NHL debut in 2016.

Ilya Mikheyev had a goal and an assist in his NHL debut, Frederik Gauthier and Trevor Moore also scored, and Frederik Andersen stopped 23 shots.

Scott Sabourin scored in his NHL debut for Ottawa, Brady Tkachuk, and Bobby Ryan added goals, and Craig Anderson made 37 saves. Former Toronto assistant D.J. Smith made his debut as an NHL head coach.

GOLDEN KNIGHTS 4, SHARKS 1

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Reilly Smith had two goals, Cody Glass scored the first of his career and Vegas beat San Jose in the opener for both teams.

Mark Stone also scored for the Golden Knights. Marc-Andre Fleury made 21 saves to earn the win in the 799th game of his career.

Fleury, now in his 16th season, improved to 10-5-0 in openers. The victory tied him with Curtis Joseph (10-2-0) and Martin Brodeur (10-5-3) for the most season-opening wins in NHL history.

Vegas, which will play in San Jose on Friday, improved to 6-1-2 all-time against the Sharks in the regular season.

Marcus Sorensen scored for San Jose. Martin Jones made 31 saves.

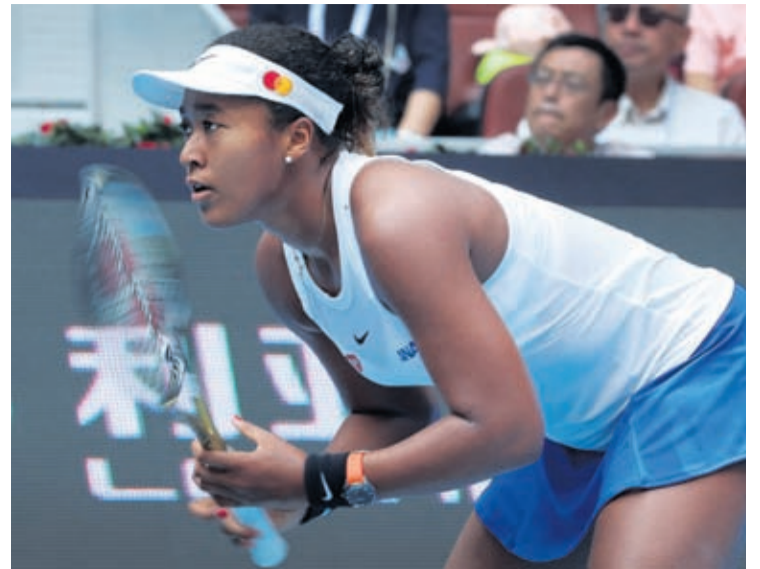
OILERS 3, CANUCKS 2

EDMONTON, Alberta (AP) — Leon Draisaitl had a goal and two assists, Connor McDavid snapped a third-period tie and Edmonton topped Vancouver in Dave Tippett's debut as Oilers coach.

McDavid broke a 2-all deadlock with 5½ minutes to play, splitting the defense before beating goalie Jacob Markstrom on a strong solo effort.

Zack Kassian also scored for the Oilers. Mike Smith made 31 saves in his first game with Edmonton.

Alexander Edler and Tanner Pearson had the goals for the Canucks, who won their previous five openers. □



Naomi Osaka of Japan spins her racquet as she waits for a serve from Alison Riske of the United States during their third round of the women's singles match in the China Open tennis tournament in Beijing, Thursday, Oct. 3, 2019.

Associated Press

Osaka reaches quarterfinals at China Open

BEIJING (AP) — Naomi Osaka won the final 10 games of the match and beat Alison Riske 6-4, 6-0 Thursday to reach the quarterfinals at the China Open.

The two-time Grand Slam champion from Japan served seven aces and stretched her winning streak seven matches.

"Today I was kind of happy because the first set was really tight. I was thinking that it's been a while since I've kind of had to be really serious," Osaka said. "It seemed like she was the type that would use my pace, especially on the forehand. I just tried not to give her too much."

Osaka will next face Bianca Andreescu in a meeting of the last two U.S. Open champions. The Canadian easily defeated American qualifier Jennifer Brady 6-1, 6-3.

Osaka called Andreescu "an amazing player." "I feel like she's doing better than I was last year, so it's all cool," Osaka said. "I have to learn from her, too."

Defending champion Caroline Wozniacki also advanced to the quarterfinals, beating Katerina Sinikova 7-5, 6-4.

"I was trying to stay aggressive. I was trying to move the ball around a lot," the 16th-seeded Wozniacki said. "I think I was successful most of the time, but there

was a couple of games where she played good or I played a little sloppy."

Also, Daria Kasatkina beat Ekaterina Alexandrova 6-4, 6-3.

In the men's draw, John Isner hit 21 aces in a 7-6 (3), 7-5 victory over Dan Evans. The American will next face Stefanos Tsitsipas in the quarterfinals. The third-seeded Greek came back from a set down to defeat defending champion Nikoloz Basilashvili 4-6, 6-3, 6-2.

"In the second and third sets, I felt really comfortable," Tsitsipas said. "I returned well, served well and did everything well."

Also, Alexander Zverev beat Felix Auger Aliassime 6-3, 6-1, and Sam Querrey defeated Diego Schwartzman 7-6 (2), 6-7 (6), 6-3.

Top-seeded Dominic Thiem will play Andy Murray on Friday. Murray won consecutive singles matches in Beijing for the first time since undergoing hip surgery in January. □

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Golovkin puts Canelo in past, eyes Derevyanchenko at Garden

By BRIAN MAHONEY

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Gennadiy Golovkin is intrigued by fighting outside the U.S. and in another weight class.

Whether it's boxing or business, Triple G seems interested in just about everything — except Canelo Alvarez.

With that chapter of his career in the past — and unclear if it will ever reappear — Golovkin is focused only on the opportunity in his present.

The longtime middleweight champion can regain one of his old belts when he faces Sergiy Derevyanchenko on Saturday night at Madison Square Garden.

At stake is the IBF title that both Golovkin (39-1-1, 35 KOs) and Alvarez previously held. Both ended up being forced to vacate it when they wouldn't make matches with Derevyanchenko (13-1, 10 KOs), but Triple G is eager to take him on this time in a bout that will stream on DAZN.

"Please guys, if you like real fight, don't miss this fight," Golovkin said.

It's his second bout with trainer Johnathon Banks since the two matches with Alvarez, the first a draw and the second a narrow loss that was the first of his career following a record 20 consecutive middleweight



In this Aug. 22, 2019, file photo, Kazakhstan's Gennadiy Golovkin, left, and Ukraine's Sergiy Derevyanchenko, pose for photos after a news conference at New York's Madison Square Garden. Associated Press

title defenses. There's been little progress toward a third meeting, in part because Golovkin isn't interested in returning to Las Vegas due to his disappointment in the judges' scoring of the fights. Title or not, he appears as popular as ever with his fans, who believe he won one if not both the fights, and plenty of them will be in the crowd for Golovkin's seventh fight at Madison Square Garden.

The fighter widely known as Gennady before deciding to go with the spelling on his birth certificate will have options afterward at 160

or 168 pounds should he decide to move up, which he said would be only temporary. The Kazakhstan native thinks he might have the opportunity to take his Big Drama Show around the world thanks to DAZN's availability in other countries. "We have a lot of different things to talk about," Golovkin said through an interpreter. "We have a lot of interesting subjects, topics, and you asking about Canelo tells something about you as journalists. Explore better options. Ask more interesting questions. I think it's your problem,

not mine." Alvarez is challenging light heavyweight champion Sergey Kovalev next month, having been stripped of the IBF title when he didn't make a deal to fight Derevyanchenko, the mandatory challenger. The same thing happened last year to Golovkin when he refused a bout with the Ukrainian after the initial date for his rematch with Alvarez was scrapped when the Mexican failed a drug test.

Derevyanchenko then went on to fight Danny Jacobs for the vacant belt, losing by split decision. The

fact that he's getting another chance with just one bout since makes it appear that he benefited from some boxing legal maneuvering, but his handlers say he's worthy of this fight no matter how he got it.

"Anybody that says that he doesn't deserve to be here again, to put it in sort of a slang way, is a hater," said Keith Connolly, his manager. "He deserves to be here, he deserves every penny that he's making and I think he'll show that Saturday night."

Derevyanchenko, now based in Brooklyn, had more than 400 amateur fights before finding trouble landing work as a pro. Connolly said he'll be in a position to earn \$10 million or more for his next fight should he upset Golovkin.

"Saturday night, I'm ready for rock and roll," Derevyanchenko said.

Golovkin is the rock star on the card, the one DAZN signed to a multifight deal after previously signing Alvarez, with the expectation the mere hope of a third bout would sell plenty of subscriptions.

The possibility remains, though Golovkin has more to do at 37 than wait around. He'll have four fights remaining on his DAZN deal, and even talked of three of them coming in 2020. □

Chloe Kim

Continued from Page 17

It's not to say she dislikes snowboarding. It's her life, and she wouldn't have it any other way.

But at 19, and with a multitude of Winter X-Games titles, world championships and the Olympic gold medal already on her resume, this felt like the perfect time to take a break, let her body heal and "dip my toes into that chapter of my life."

"I need some Chloe time, I need to be a human, need to be a normal kid for once," she explained in the video posted. "Because I haven't done that at any point in my life."

The arc of Kim's snowboarding career has been told and retold, especially in the build-up to her Olympic victory in her parents' homeland of South Korea. By the time she was 7, she was winning contests. At age 8, she was living in Switzerland to begin training to eventually become the most dominant female snowboarder in the history of the sport. Until this fall at Princeton, homeschooling had kept her out of the classroom since seventh grade, "which is terrifying," she said on the video.

In a different video posted last month, she spoke of the difficulties of starting college, of hearing the



In this July 11, 2019, file photo, Olympic champion snowboarder Chloe Kim arrives at the Kids' Choice Sports Awards in Santa Monica, Calif.

whispers and seeing the phones come out when she steps into the dining hall — of being a celebrity when she really just wants to be a college kid.

Given the way Kim has obliterated the field over the years — she became the first woman to land back-to-back 1080-degree spins in her Olympic

run, then followed that with a first-of-its-kind frontside, double-cork 1080 — there's no huge concern that taking a year off will draw her closer to the field.

But in the true spirit of snowboarding, Kim has always less about the scoreboard, and more about being the best she can be.

She said she did the video to give her fans an update, but also to offer some advice to anyone facing a crossroads in their lives.

"I really think it's 'Follow your gut, trust yourself and do what makes you happy,'" Kim said. "And I think right now, at this point in my life, this is what will make me the happiest, and it'll be good for me as a person." □

Associated Press

Big Tech's eco-pledges aren't slowing its pursuit of Big Oil

BY MATT O'BRIEN
AP Technology Writer

Employee activism and outside pressure have pushed big tech companies like Amazon, Microsoft and Google into promising to slash their carbon emissions. But there's another thing these tech giants aren't cutting: Their growing business ties to the oil and gas industry.

When Microsoft held an all-staff meeting in September, an employee asked CEO Satya Nadella if it was ethical for the company to be selling its cloud computing services to fossil fuel companies, according to two other Microsoft employees who described the exchange on condition they not be named. Such partnerships, the worker told Nadella, were accelerating the oil companies' greenhouse gas emissions.

Microsoft and other tech giants have been competing with one another to strike lucrative partnerships with ExxonMobil, Chevron, Shell, BP and other energy firms, in many cases supplying them not just with remote data storage but also artificial intelligence tools for pinpointing better drilling spots or speeding up refinery production.

The oil and gas industry is spending roughly \$20 billion each year on cloud services, which accounts for about 10% of the total cloud market, according to Vivek Chidambaram, a managing director of Accenture's energy consultancy. It's not yet clear whether the extraction industry is getting its money's worth, although experts remain bullish about the application of advanced technology to oil and gas exploration.

Nadella sought to assuage employee concerns at the September 12 meeting, first by reiterating Microsoft's internal efforts on environmental sustainability, according to the workers, who asked for anonymity because they feared retaliation for speaking about an internal meeting. The employees said Nadella also defended Microsoft's



In this Friday, Sept. 20, 2019 file photo, Amazon workers begin to gather in front of the Spheres, participating in the climate strike in Seattle.

energy partners, pointing out their investments in researching and developing more sustainable energy production methods.

"There's no fossil fuel CEO who sits there and says, 'You know, I'm just gonna deny climate change,'" Nadella said, according to the employees' transcript of his remarks. "If anything, they're all saying, 'Let us have, in fact, the regulation, the pricing mechanisms that get us to this future.'"

Microsoft said in an emailed statement Tuesday that it is "focused on helping companies of all kinds become more efficient, including energy companies." It declined to comment on Nadella's remarks, which were part of a regularly scheduled "all-hands" gathering in which the CEO welcomes questions on a range of topics.

Less than a week after that exchange and days before a planned worldwide protest over climate change, Microsoft announced yet another major deal for its Azure cloud computing platform — this time with Chevron and oilfield services giant Schlumberger. The timing of the announcement ahead of the climate protest and United Nations

climate action meetings angered some environmentally-minded Microsoft workers and caught the attention of outsiders.

"It is unconscionable that amid global climate protests, tech giants like Microsoft are announcing major partnerships with Big Oil," said Democratic presidential candidate and Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, in a tweet that coincided with the September 20 global climate strike. "We must hold them accountable, demand they break ties with the fossil fuel industry, and move rapidly to sustainable energy."

Echoing that message was a small group of Microsoft employees who carried cardboard signs to a lunchtime protest that day outside of Microsoft's headquarters in Redmond, Washington. "No Azure For Oil," said one of the signs.

After months of employee activism, Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos said he was pushing his company to the forefront on sustainability, committing it to have 100% of its energy use come from solar panels and other renewable energy by 2030. But he also defended Amazon's work with the oil and gas industry, arguing that

"we need to help them instead of vilify them."

Some experts say AI and cloud services could actually play a role in curbing emissions.

Denying cloud computing services to the oil and gas industry would do little to address the bigger problem of the world's ongoing dependence on fossil fuels, said Aseem Prakash, director of the Center for Environmental Politics at the University of Washington.

"We would not want to collapse the fossil fuel industry," Prakash said. "We would want a soft landing." If anything, he said, an oil company's shift to another company's cloud platform may have some environmental benefits because it is more efficient than running its digital operations on its own servers. Driving down costs could also help open the door to investments in other, less polluting methods for generating energy.

It's less clear whether AI is mitigating pollution or worsening it. In their pitches to work with oil and gas companies, cloud providers such as Amazon and Microsoft have boasted of advanced machine-learning tools that can sift through

huge troves of geologic and seismic data to help make decisions about where to extract resources. IDC oil analyst Gaurav Verma said AI is a critical technology for oil and gas companies that want to learn from that data to study oil reservoirs or predict when maintenance is needed on a pipeline.

Earlier this year, ExxonMobil struck a deal to tap into Microsoft's technology to capitalize on the shale oil boom in Texas and New Mexico. Microsoft has said that real-time data collected from a region spanning hundreds of miles would enable ExxonMobil "to make faster and better decisions" on drilling and well completion and support production growth by as much as 50,000 oil-equivalent barrels per day by 2025.

An unsigned statement from Microsoft's protesting workers said they've been "made complicit" by the company's role in warming the planet.

"Microsoft makes millions of dollars in profits by helping fossil fuel companies extract more oil," the statement said.

But it's not clear if tech giants are actually helping that much — in part because they may be overstating their own role in transforming Big Oil with AI. "The sundae they're selling is the cloud," said Chidambaram, the Accenture analyst. "The cherries they're putting on it is the analytics." Chidambaram said that's because oil industries are still cagey about sharing what they know about underground reserves and don't want third parties analyzing that data.

Chidambaram said in the long run, however, AI could actually help meet climate goals. For example, machines that can capture better data and quickly analyze it could also help detect and reduce the leakage of methane from wells and pipelines, a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions.

"Data can be used in many ways," he said. "It's about how it's being used." □

Associated Press



In this Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2019, photo, an electrician works at a car wash in North Andover, Mass. Associated Press

Drop in U.S. service sector activity raises economic concerns

By **BANI SAPRA**
AP Business Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) —

Growth in the U.S. economy's vast services sector slowed sharply in September to its lowest point in three years, suggesting that the Trump administration's trade conflicts and rising uncertainty are weakening the bulk of the economy. The Institute for Supply Management, an association of purchasing managers, said Thursday that its non-manufacturing index sank to 52.6 from 56.4 in August.

Readings above 50 signal growth, but September's figures are the lowest since August 2016.

The report renewed worries of an economic slowdown and caused alarm among stock traders. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell more than 200 points immediately after the ISM released its report at 10 a.m. Eastern time, before recovering all its losses later.

The downshift in the services sector, which accounts for more than two-thirds of U.S. economic activity, coincides with a U.S.-China trade war that has been squeezing American manufacturers. The services sector has so far mainly weathered those pressures. But slower global growth, rising trade tensions and

persistent uncertainties may now spill into services industries.

Sales, new orders and employment all weakened last month, and companies that were surveyed by ISM expressed concerns about tariffs. Economists say a drop in the employment measure of ISM's index to 50.4, its lowest level since February 2014, is a particular cause for concern.

"The most concerning part of the survey was on the employment side, where the index dropped from 53.1 to 50.4, just barely indicating growth," a note from Contingent Macro Research said.

Survey respondents suggested that a tightening workforce was intensifying competition for qualified employees.

But Ben May, an economist at Oxford Economics, said that weaker employment was also likely due, at least in part, to heightened economic uncertainty and global manufacturing weakness. May added that this would likely spill over to hurt other areas in the U.S. economy.

"If softer and more uncertain economic prospects are the cause of weaker labor demand, any employment downturn is more likely to be accompanied by weaker consumer sentiment and slower wage

and investment," May said in a research note.

Economic growth in recent months has been driven, even more than usual, by consumer spending as businesses have slowed their expansion and investment because of Trump's trade conflicts.

But with the administration's tariffs beginning to hit consumer goods from China and Europe, the forces that are hammering manufacturing are threatening to weaken household spending, the U.S. economy's primary fuel.

"The next few months will be a test of the U.S. consumers' confidence in the face of recession-talk headlines, the next round of tariffs impacting consumer goods, financial market volatility and the latest political uncertainty in Washington," said Ksenia Bushmeneva, an economist at TD Economics. □



In this Saturday, Feb. 27, 2016 file photo, Mo'ne Davis, 14, of Philadelphia, signs an autograph for a fan on the cover of Sports Illustrated magazine at PNC Field in Moosic, Pa.

Associated Press

Sports Illustrated, under new management, cuts staff jobs

By **TALI ARBEL**
AP Business Writer
NEW YORK (AP) —

Sports Illustrated's new manager said Thursday that the 65-year-old sports magazine is cutting more than 40 jobs out of a staff of 150. Maven, the company now managing the magazine, will add 200 contractors to cover college and professional sports teams, said Maven spokesman Greg Witter. These people are "independent publishers, contractors" but "still professional journalists," he said. Maven struck a licensing deal in June to operate Sports Illustrated with the magazine's new owner, branding company Authentic Brands Group. Magazine publisher Meredith, which earlier this year sold Sports Illustrated to Authentic Brands for \$110 million, was initially supposed to run the magazine's print edition and website.


Sports Illustrated's new

CEO, Ross Levinsohn, is the former publisher of the Los Angeles Times and a controversial figure who was investigated on sexual harassment allegations. He was cleared of wrongdoing by the company, then called Tronc, that had owned the paper. He is a frequent collaborator with Maven's CEO, Jim Heckman, a media entrepreneur. Heckman said in a brief June interview with The Associated Press that Sports Illustrated is "an important treasure for the country. We're going to invest into that treasure." He said the primary focus was investment in technology for the brand. □




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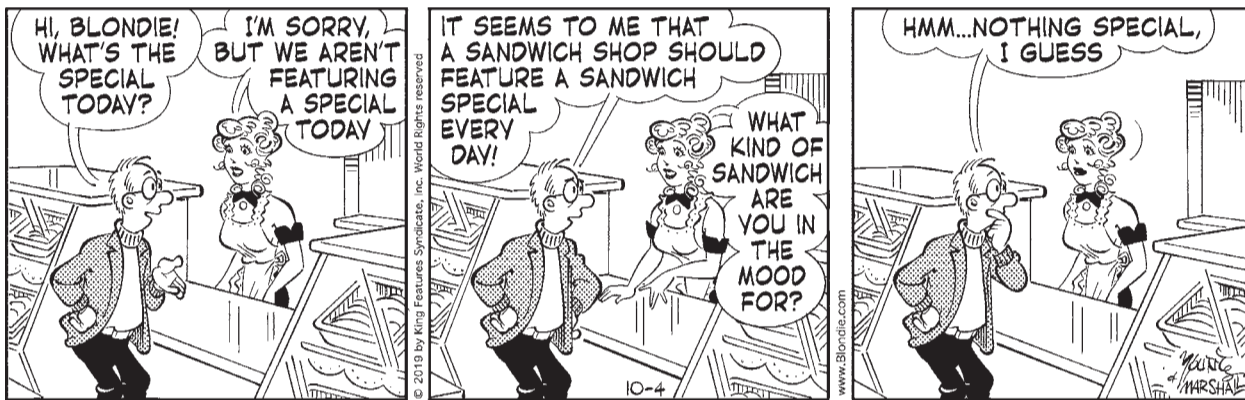
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6 Chix



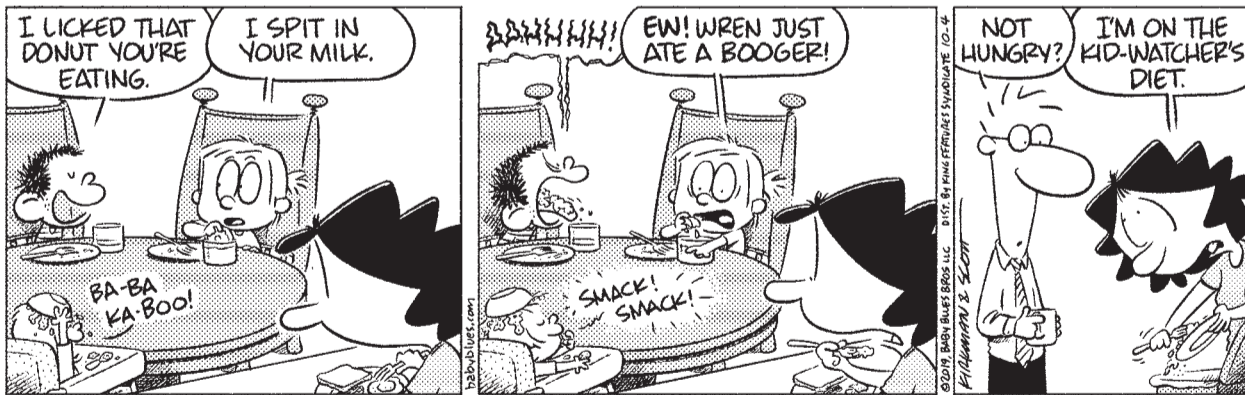
Blondie



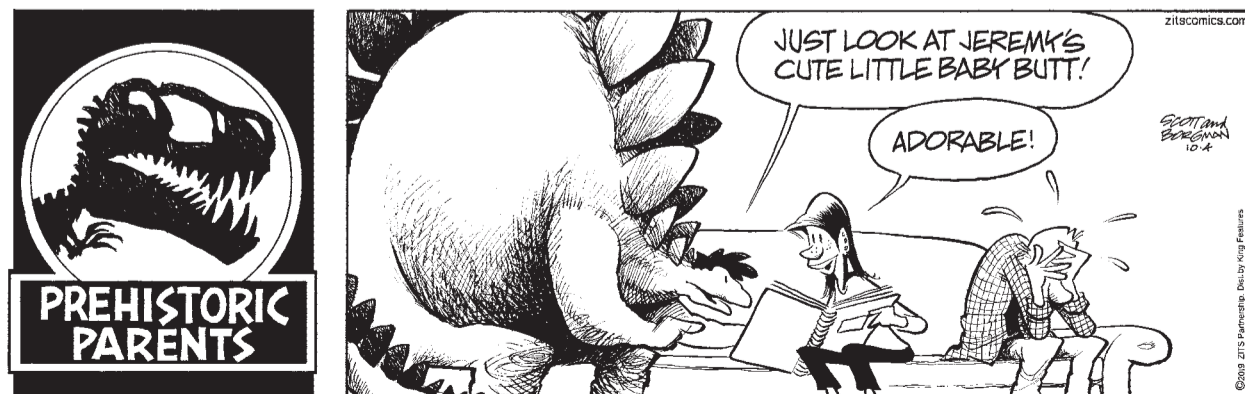
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

3								5
		7	6		4	8		
	5							7
	2		8		3		6	
				9				
	7		4		5			1
	9							2
		3	7		2	5		
4								3

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 10/04

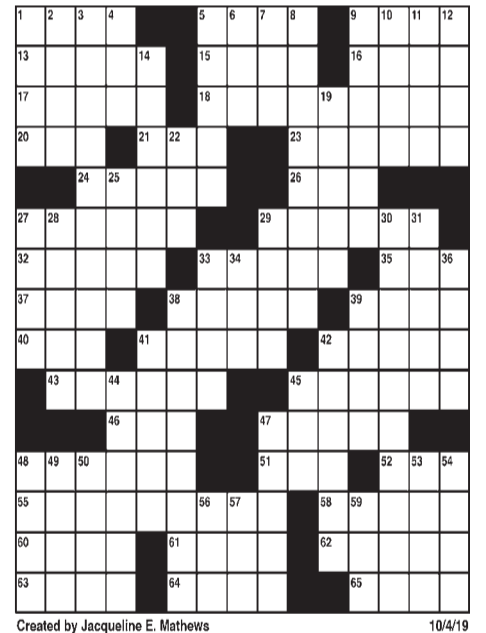
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

9	1	3	7	4	8	2	5	6
2	5	8	6	3	9	4	7	1
4	7	6	5	1	2	8	3	9
8	4	1	2	6	7	3	9	5
5	6	2	9	8	3	1	4	7
3	9	7	1	5	4	6	8	2
6	8	5	3	7	1	9	2	4
1	2	4	8	9	5	7	6	3
7	3	9	4	2	6	5	1	8

ACROSS

- 1 Hand protector
- 5 Abnormal chest sound
- 9 Artist & writer Silverstein
- 13 As sore as _
- 15 Ajar
- 16 Paper towel brand
- 17 Hillside
- 18 Expanded
- 20 All __; fully prepared
- 21 Bordeaux buddy
- 23 "To put it __"; words with an understatement
- 24 Shelter
- 26 Cereal grain
- 27 Pill form
- 29 Cantankerous
- 32 Pile up
- 33 Embankment
- 35 Poe's monogram
- 37 Mediocre
- 38 Planted
- 39 Police spray
- 40 Shack
- 41 Cut off
- 42 Malia's sister
- 43 Partial refund to a customer
- 45 Aviators
- 46 Groove
- 47 Bishop Fulton J. __ of TV fame
- 48 Torah, for example
- 51 Farm animal
- 52 Not long __; recently
- 55 Sicilian volcano
- 58 Arm joint
- 64 Cooking herb
- 65 Ties the knot



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 10/4/19

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

COB	SHALL	ALPS
BAAS	MALIA	BALE
SKIM	EBSEN	RIOT
STALLIONS	ODDS	
SILT	BOA	
SASHAY	PLUNDERS	
ALTER	THERE	LET
CLAD	HOOEY	NONO
KIM	PEONS	SUPER
SEPARATE	SCREWY	
RED	WHOS	
SCAN	ARCHITECT	
TORE	COLON	RUED
ELMS	HOUSE	YEAR
MESS	EMBER	SKY

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DOWN

- 1 Tumor
- 2 Suffix for flex or deduct

- 3 Crest or Colgate
- 4 Pointed end
- 5 Songbird
- 6 Spring month; abbr.
- 7 Zodiac sign
- 8 In love
- 9 Slender
- 10 Female red deer
- 11 Daredevil Knievel
- 12 Woman
- 14 Tree droppings
- 19 Sawyer or Keaton
- 22 Encountered
- 25 Part of AKA
- 27 Money
- 28 Love, in France
- 29 Take __; assume control
- 30 Like a fair price
- 31 Pleasure boat
- 33 "Me Do"; Beatles song
- 34 Female animal
- 36 Small veggies
- 38 Colonists

- 39 Boy or man
- 41 Ste. Marie
- 42 Military blockades
- 44 "Jane Eyre" author
- 45 Beta Kappa
- 47 Black card
- 48 Air pollution
- 49 __ back; return
- 50 Destroy
- 53 " __ grief!"
- 54 __ up to; confesses
- 56 Soothing drink
- 57 Unpleasant spouse
- 59 Statute

EU court: Facebook can be forced to remove content worldwide

By SAMUEL PETREQUIN
Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — The European Union's highest court ruled Thursday that individual member countries can force Facebook to remove what they regard as unlawful material from the social network all over the world — a decision experts say could hinder free speech online and put a heavy burden on tech companies.

The European Court of Justice ruling, which cannot be appealed, is seen as a defeat for Facebook and other online platforms and widens the divide over how heavily Europe and the U.S. seek to regulate technology giants.

"It really unleashes a whole new gamut of risk and worries for Facebook in the EU," said Wedbush Securities managing director Daniel Ives.

Ruling in the case of an Austrian politician who objected to what she regarded as a libelous news story, the European court said Internet companies can be forced to take action worldwide to remove objectionable material when ordered to do so by a court in an EU country.

Facebook already removes or otherwise restricts photos and other posts in any given country if the material violates that nation's laws, such as anti-government comments in countries where that is illegal. But the new ruling means Facebook would have to make such material inaccessible globally. Facebook charged that the decision "undermines the longstanding principle that one country does not have the right to impose its laws on speech on another country."

While lawmakers in the U.S. are considering tighter regulation of Facebook and other tech giants, politicians in Europe have gone much further on a variety of fronts, including passing stricter data privacy laws in 2018.

"This shows a sharpening divide between the way



This July 16, 2013, file photo, shows a sign at Facebook headquarters in Menlo Park, Calif. Facebook says it has suspended tens of thousands of apps made by about 400 developers as part of an investigation following the Cambridge Analytica scandal.

the EU is handling privacy and data content versus the U.S.," Wedbush's Ives said. "It poses broader risks for the likes of Google and other big tech companies as the 'Brussels versus tech' battle continues to take hold."

Eva Glawischnig-Piesczek, former chairwoman of Austria's Green Party, had sued Facebook in her home country to remove a news story that she considered libelous and insulting and could be viewed globally. An Austrian court ruled in her favor. The country's top court then asked the EU to weigh in.

The same EU court ruled last month that the European Union's "right to be forgotten" rules — which allow people to ask search engines like Google to remove outdated or em-

bossing links about themselves, even if they are true — do not apply outside the 28-nation bloc.

Thursday's ruling is likely to encourage internet platforms to step up their efforts to monitor user content.

Activists at the European Digital Rights organization said that instead of hiring more "content moderators," companies like Facebook might have to rely on automatic filters. And those, they warned, might be unable to distinguish between legal and illegal content.

The Computer & Communications Industry Association, a lobbying group that includes Amazon, Facebook and Google, said the ruling could infringe on the right to free speech.

"The ruling essentially allows one country or region

to decide what Internet users around the world can say and what information they can access," said CCIA Europe senior manager Victoria de Posson.

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Fur seal moms, pups find refuge on steaming Alaska volcano

By DAN JOLING

Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)

— Alaska's northern fur seal population for three decades has been classified as depleted, but the marine mammals are showing up in growing numbers at an unlikely location — a tiny island that forms the tip of an active undersea volcano.

Vents on Bogoslof Island continue to spew mud, steam and sulfurous gases two years after an eruption sent ash clouds into the path of jetliners passing over the Bering Sea. Still, northern fur seal moms find the remote island's rocky beaches perfect for giving birth and mothering pups.

"The population growth of northern fur seals on Bogoslof has been extraordinary," said Tom Gelatt, who leads a NOAA Fisheries group that studies northern fur seals. Federal scientists visited the island in August. Geographically speaking, the island is not a particularly unusual place for the seals known for their thick coats to hang out. Most of the world's roughly 1.1 million northern fur seals breed in the eastern Bering Sea. The animals live in the ocean from November to June and head for land in summer to breed and nurse pups.

But why the seals chose volatile Bogoslof over the dozens of other uninhabited Aleutian Islands is unclear.

"The surface is covered with these big, ballistic blocks, some as big as 10 meters (33 feet) in length that were exploded out of the vent," said Chris Waythomas, a U.S. Geological Survey research geophysicist at the Alaska Volcano Observatory. "They litter



This August 2019 photo released by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries (NOAA) shows a mature northern fur seal standing on a beach on Bogoslof Island, Alaska.

Associated Press

the surface. It's pretty wild." The eastern Bering Sea population of northern fur seals numbers about 635,000, with their main breeding ground on St. Paul Island, 240 miles (390 kilometers) northwest of Bogoslof. A California stock in the San Miguel, Channel and Farallon Islands is estimated at about 14,000 animals. Other northern fur seals live in Russian waters, though it's unclear how many.

Fur seals were first spotted on Bogoslof in 1980, and NOAA researchers have since conducted periodic checks on the population. In 2015, biologists estimat-

ed an annual growth rate of just over 10% to approximately 28,000 pups on the island. The 2019 estimate likely will be more than 36,000 pups, Gelatt said. Food in the deep water near the island could be a factor.

The animals stay on beaches, but on Bogoslof — which is about a third the size of New York City's Central Park — they are never far from signs of volcanic activity.

The center of the island supports a field of fumaroles, openings through which hot gases emerge. Some roar "like jet engines" and spurt mud geysers several meters high, Waythomas said. He has visited the last two summers.

"It was amazing, the sounds that were being produced," he said. Eruptions in 2016 and 2017 showered the landscape with rocks and killed all vegetation. They also shrank and grew the is-

land. Explosions destroyed acres of Bogoslof only to have fragmented material blown from lava vents create new real estate. The island remains about 0.5 square miles (1.2 square kilometers).

Bogoslof is surrounded by deep water, and its seals eat squid and northern smoothtongue, a deep-water fish that looks like a smelt. Seals on St. Paul, the largest of the Pribilof Islands, forage on the shallow continental shelf for walleye pollock, a fish targeted by commercial fishermen.

Females with pups on Bogoslof return from foraging faster than Pribilof mothers, possibly allowing their pups to receive more meals and wean at a larger size, Gelatt said. Bogoslof also is closer to winter feeding grounds south of the Aleutians, possibly allowing pups to reach the grounds with less risk from Bering Sea storms.

Northern fur seals are dis-

tinct from harbor, ringed, bearded, ribbon and spotted seals in Alaska, which have no ear flaps. Northern fur seals, like sea lions, are eared seals. They were named for their concentrated fur: Fur seals have 350,000 hairs per square inch (60,000 hairs per square centimeter).

The animals have a prominent role in the history of colonized Alaska. After hunting sea otters to near-extinction, Russian traders turned to northern fur seals and relocated Aleuts to the Pribilofs to kill and process seals. When Emperor Alexander II needed cash and decided to sell Alaska to the United States in 1867, fur was one of the future state's known assets.

But by 1988, four years after the commercial harvest ended on St. Paul, the northern fur seal population had declined by more than half from its 1950s estimated population of 2.1 million animals.

NOAA biologists don't know why northern fur seals have not made a comeback.

"That's the million-dollar question," Gelatt said. Competition for prey from the commercial fishing fleet, predation by killer whales, disease and ecosystem changes affecting seal or prey behavior are possibilities.

Volcanic activity on Bogoslof has been relatively stable, but Gelatt's crew chose not to camp there during their weeklong August expedition, fearing a recurrence of explosions that could shoot boulders like bottle rockets. They instead made day trips from an anchored boat.

The crew tallied seals and assessed whether aerial images taken from unmanned aircraft could be used in future counts. As fewer seals breed on St. Paul Island, the growth on Bogoslof is significant.

"Barring other future catastrophic eruptions that could dramatically change the geography of the island, there is plenty of room for a lot more seals on Bogoslof," Gelatt said. □

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Ruby Rose ready to defend Gotham in The CW's 'Batwoman'

By ALICIA RANCILIO
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Ruby Rose says she went public about sustaining serious injuries while performing stunts on her new CW series "Batwoman" because she hated that by keeping it quiet, she was lying.

The actress recently posted a video of herself undergoing surgery to her Instagram account with a caption explaining she suffered two herniated discs while performing stunt work. Her spinal cord was in jeopardy of being severed, and she was in so much pain that she says she couldn't feel her arms.

Rose said she realized it was better to be authentic about what happened, especially since she's a public figure.

"Something that we do as a society and especially Hollywood, and that is we kind of promote this ideal life," she said, "Everything is effortless and it's not, you know what I mean? I feel like it's more important to spread the message that,

actually, we're all just human beings and we're all just doing our best and not kind of make out that it is something that is so unattainable and so unrealistic."

Rose, who has experience with stunt work in films including "John Wick: Chapter 2" and "The Meg" now feels better and is back to doing stunts, but says the incident was a good reminder that she needed to slow down.

The 33-year-old's casting in "Batwoman" first made headlines because it's the first openly gay superhero to headline a TV series.

Fans hoping for some romance will have to be patient. Rose, who is openly gay herself, says her character, Kate Kane, is not looking for a relationship right now.

"I don't think that's her priority right at this minute. She has just come into herself. She's just returned to Gotham. She has so much trauma going on. She's lost her mom, she's lost her sister, she's trying to discover

what she wants to do in her life," Rose said.

"She was kicked out of the military so it's like she's starting from square one, and then when she discovers a purpose and that purpose is to become Batwoman."

Rose, however, would love to see it happen to give the character some levity.

"I said to Caroline (Dries) the writer, 'Let her have some happiness. She deserves happiness. I want her to be happy and in love.' Caroline was like, 'Yeah, it doesn't always work out that way for superheroes or for people who have to keep this secret identity' but we'll see."

As for the Batwoman costume — four-time Academy-Award winning costume designer Colleen Atwood designed the cowl and cape — Rose says the fittings were an extensive process. "It got to the point where I was like, we're doing a body scan and we're doing a 3-D scan, we're doing laser, stand in a room and there's 150 million characters that are going to catch



This Sept. 30, 2019 photo shows actress Ruby Rose posing for a portrait in New York to promote her CW series "Batwoman," premiering on Oct. 6.

Associated Press

every single angle of you doing every face and I was just like, 'Goodness gracious, this is wild,' and then when you get the suit, you really realize why," she said. "It fits me like a glove in every single area, in every movement. It feels like a

second skin so when you put it on you really kind of feel like you are unstoppable and bullet-proof and faster and stronger and all these things that you're actually not."

"Batwoman" premieres Oct. 6 on The CW. □

Jumping the shark? Kiss will play for them in the ocean

By WAYNE PARRY
Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) — Having played nearly every corner of the Earth in a nearly 50-year career, the rock band Kiss is taking its show to a new place — under the sea, where they will perform for great white sharks and eight fans separated from them by a small submarine.

As part of a promotion by Airbnb, the fans and Kiss will travel Nov. 18 in separate boats off the coast of southern Australia.

While Kiss stays above board on one vessel, the fans will be lowered beneath the surface of the water from a second boat into the viewing sub in an area known for shark activity.

Using underwater speak-

ers, Kiss will begin playing, and the sound will be audible to the submerged fans and the sharks.

"I was a little taken aback by it, but they explained that sharks are attracted to low frequencies and so they're attracted to rock 'n' roll," singer and guitarist Paul Stanley told The Associated Press.

"Since we're going to be in Australia, it gives a whole new meaning to doing a concert down under."

The first-come, first-served event costs \$50, which is half the price of Kiss tickets in even the worst nose-bleed seats in the last row at Madison Square Garden.

Proceeds will go to charity, the company said. Reservations can be made starting at 6 p.m. EDT on

airbnb.com/KISS on Oct. 14.

The event will take place in the Indian Ocean off Port Lincoln, South Australia. Kiss will be in full makeup and costumes for the performance, which will be at least four songs.

"I'm not sure how much of us the sharks can take," Stanley said. "I'm hoping they know 'Rock And Roll All Nite.'"

Stanley said Kiss bassist Gene Simmons has recovered after having some kidney stones removed recently, and should be ready to perform well before the shark show.

"I tend to think he just ate gravel," Stanley joked.

The event is part of Airbnb Animal Experiences, and is designed to have people entertain animals instead



File, in this Aug. 29, 2019 file photo, KISS performs at the the Riverbend Music Center in Cincinnati. In front from left are Gene Simmons, Tommy Thayer and Paul Stanley. Eric Singer is in the back on drums.

Associated Press

of the other way around, the company said in a news release.

As strange as it sounds, underwater concerts are not new.

The Underwater Music Festival has been held for the past 35 years in the Florida

Keys.

The shark show has untapped potential if they want to do it again sometime.

After all, what other concert could potentially bring together Great White and Air Supply? □

Banderas as Almodovar is a triumph of subtlety, wit

By **JOCELYN NOVECK**
AP National Writer
 “Don’t get that storyteller look,” film director Salvador Mallo’s elderly mother admonishes him at one point in “Pain and Glory.” It’s hard not to chuckle, because the character is a thinly veiled stand-in for Pedro Almodovar himself — the film’s director, of course, but also one of the great storytellers in cinema today.

Mallo’s mother is telling her son that she doesn’t want to be fodder for his films. But as Almodóvar’s many fans well know, that’s impossible; the Spanish legend has used his late mother, his childhood, his craft, his sexuality and almost everything else about his life to make his brilliantly eclectic films over the decades. And here, he’s doing it more than ever. Though significant parts are fiction-



This image released by Sony Pictures Classics shows Antonio Banderas in a scene from “Pain and Glory,” in theaters on Oct. 4.

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alized, “Pain and Glory” is a deeply personal quasi-autobiography starring, happily for us, Antonio Banderas, Almodovar’s longtime collaborator. Though Banderas apparently wears some of the director’s real clothing, this is not an exercise in mimicry; it’s an exquisitely lived-in performance by an actor who so grasps the essence of the man he’s portraying that he can be as subtle as he wants, like the quietest notes on a finely tuned instrument. The film is basically a dialogue between Mallo’s present and his past, at a difficult crossroads. He’s achieved fame and wealth but no longer fits the provocateur label he once had. He lives alone (in an eye-popping, art-filled apartment modeled on Almodovar’s own). He suffers from tinnitus, migraines, back pain from a recent operation, and a disturbing choking reflex when eating. And he suffers mentally, too, from anxiety and depression, not to mention grief over the recent death of his mother. Worst of all, Mallo is prevented by his physical and mental ailments from continuing to make movies, the only pursuit that gives him meaning. In a fog of pain medication and regret, he looks back at his life. The flashbacks take us to an impoverished village

in Valencia where Mallo, as a young boy (a beautifully expressive Asier Flores), emigrates with his parents, forced to make do in a cave dwelling. His mother, played by Almodovar’s luminous longtime muse Penelope Cruz, is desperate to send her clever son to school, and arranges for a scholarship to a religious seminary. “I don’t want to be a priest!” the boy cries. We also see, later in the film, the stirrings of the young boy’s first sexual desire; these unexplained feelings, provoked by a handsome young laborer that the boy is teaching to read and write, are so overpowering that they cause little Salvito to faint. (The brief encounter will resonate beautifully — and heartbreakingly — later in the movie.) In the present, we watch Mallo engage in a series of meaningful reunions. The most momentous of these is with a drug-addicted actor, Alberto (an arresting, wild-eyed Asier Etxeandia) with whom he’s been bitterly estranged since Alberto starred in one of Mallo’s films decades earlier. The reunion — necessitated by a joint invitation to appear at a retrospective — somehow leads to Mallo’s trying heroin for the first time, sending him further into a deep mental fog. (Interestingly, Banderas and Almodovar went through their own pe-

Associated Press
 riad of estrangement.) But Alberto’s re-emergence will lead to an even more important reunion for Mallo, with a longtime lover (an excellent Leonardo Sparaglia), now living on another continent. It’s too complicated to explain how the two find each other, but this beautifully layered scene — happy, melancholy, wistful — is one of Banderas’ most effective. Then there’s a “reunion” with Mallo’s beloved late mother, perfectly embodied in old age by 86-year-old Spanish star Julieta Serrano, in which the two come to terms with some sobering truths. Some may find the film too loosely plotted, a series of vignettes more than a single, tight narrative. But they only need to sit back, listen to the beautiful score by Alberto Iglesias, and let Almodovar weave it all together — from the first meditative shot of Banderas to the satisfying surprise of the ending shot — as only Almodovar can. “Pain and Glory,” a Sony Pictures Classics release, has been rated R by the Motion Picture Association of America “for drug use, some graphic nudity and language.” Running time: 113 minutes. Three and a half stars out of four. MPAA Definition of R: Restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian. □

Jaguars owner investing in national Black News Channel

By **BRENDAN FARRINGTON**

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) —

Jacksonville Jaguars owner Shad Khan disclosed Wednesday that he will be the majority investor in the nation's only 24-hour news network aimed at African American viewers, giving the network a deep pocket as it launches next month. The network has been in the works for years and an announcement about its launch was made earlier this year. But Khan's backing gives it a substantial boost.

"I am a big believer in the fact that we have a number of communities, obviously especially the African American, who are underserved," Khan said in a phone interview. "We know the mission, but I'm hoping that as time goes on this becomes a bridge to connect all the cultures, including obviously south Asian, which I am. This is a great worthwhile cause. I want to see it happen."

He declined to say how

much he would invest initially but said it would be enough to keep the network running for a long time.

"It's significant, and frankly it's open ended. The investment continues to make sure that not only are the bricks and mortar, the equipment are really what it takes to make an excellent product, but also the people on the air and the programming costs," Khan said. "It's whatever it takes."

Khan is worth an estimated \$8 billion and made his fortune in the auto equipment industry. As well as the Jaguars, he owns Fulham Football Club of the English Football League, Four Seasons Hotel Toronto and All Elite Wrestling.

Former Republican U.S. Rep. J.C. Watts, who was a star quarterback at the University of Oklahoma in the 1980s, will be chairman of the new network. It will be available via cable and satellite viewers in 33 million households.

"When Shad and I were kids, they had three networks in the U.S. and today you have venues that you can speak to every demographic in the country in terms of news, but ... there's no venue for the African American community to have a dialogue to talk about cultural things ... or news in general," Watts said in the conference call with Khan.

"This platform will create that, and we're tickled that Shad has chosen to come alongside us and walk with us in this effort."

The network has agreements with Charter Communications, Comcast and DISH and will be carried in major African American markets such as New York, Atlanta, New Orleans, Chicago and Los Angeles. The network is to begin broadcasting in November and will be based in Tallahassee, Florida's capital, with bureaus around the country, Watts said.

While Watts is a Republican, he said the channel will be



In this Sept. 24, 2017 file photo, Jacksonville Jaguars owner Shahid Khan stands before an NFL football game against between the Jaguars and the Baltimore Ravens at Wembley Stadium in London.

Associated Press

about African American culture and won't cater to political ideologies.

Former Democratic Tallahassee Mayor John Marks is part of its management team.

"We're not looking to be Republican or Democrat. Obviously, there will be current affairs, but we are culturally specific to the African American community. MSNBC, Fox News, CNN — they may have African

American faces on their news shows, but they are not necessarily covering the community from a cultural perspective," Watts said. "We're not looking to be left or right."

He said topics that have gone undercovered elsewhere will get network attention, including news about historically black colleges and universities and sickle cell disease, which affects African Americans. □

Actor Robert De Niro in real-life drama with ex-worker

By **LARRY NEUMEISTER**

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Robert De Niro has found himself in a real-life court drama, trading dueling lawsuits with his former assistant after their decade-long working relationship went dreadfully sour.

He's accusing her of misappropriating money. She says he subjected her to sexist and harassing comments.

Chase Robinson sued the 76-year-old De Niro Thursday in Manhattan federal court, seeking \$12 million. The lawsuit came six weeks after De Niro's company, Canal Productions, sought \$6 million from Robinson in state court.

Robinson, who's 37, said she endured years of gender discrimination and harassment as De Niro made sexually charged comments, was verbally abusive and treated her as his "office wife" while she was an executive assistant and



This combination photo shows Robert De Niro at the Comedy Central roast of Alec Baldwin in Beverly Hills, Calif., on Sept. 7, 2019, left, and Chase Robinson, a former employee of Robert De Niro's company, Canal Productions in New York on Oct. 2, 2019.

eventual Vice President of Production and Finance. According to the lawsuit, he sometimes directed Robinson to scratch his back, button his shirts, fix his collars, tie his ties and wake him up when he was in bed after hiring her in 2008 when she was 25 and aspiring to a career in the entertainment industry.

"De Niro would unleash

tirades against Ms. Robinson — often while he was intoxicated — in which he denigrated, berated, bullied, and hurled expletives at her," the lawsuit said. "De Niro made vulgar, inappropriate, and gendered comments to Ms. Robinson. He would joke with Ms. Robinson about his Viagra prescription." Canal's lawsuit alleged

Robinson misappropriated hundreds of thousands of dollars, converted millions of the company's frequent flyer miles for her personal use, paid herself from Canal's petty cash account for personal and luxury items and "loafed during working hours, binge-watching astounding hours of TV shows on Netflix." It said the com-

pany "seeks economic damages from a disloyal employee who, despite being in a trusted position, repeatedly and methodically abused her position to misappropriate her employer's funds and property for her personal gain." Robinson countered in her lawsuit that the lawsuit against her was retaliatory because it was filed after she had resigned and informed De Niro's lawyer that she was considering a lawsuit to address De Niro's gender discrimination and wage violations.

"The lawsuit is replete with 'clickbait' allegations that falsely characterize Ms. Robinson as a loafer, a thief, and a miscreant. Now, when her name is Googled, these allegations pop up on the screen. The results have been devastating to Ms. Robinson. Her reputation and her career have been destroyed," her lawsuit said. □

Associated Press

'Nothing like it:' Global balloon fiesta ready for liftoff

By **SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN**

Associated Press
ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)

— The sun is close to popping over the mountain top and the hot air balloon pilots are beginning to test their propane burners, beating back what's left of the darkness and the crisp morning air with each quick burst of bright orange and blue flames.

Fans start to roar, pushing air into the giant, colorful envelopes as ground crews pace along the inflating fabric, ensuring every inch is sound as the balloon takes shape.

The ropes are taught, the fasteners secure and the gondolas tip upright with a strong blast of the burners. Liftoff!

Hundreds of balloons will be filling New Mexico's skies on Saturday at the start of the annual Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta.

Elijah Sanchez has witnessed this choreographed balloon ballet for years, growing up in what many consider the ballooning capital of the world. He's gone from a young wide-eyed spectator to a teenage crew member and now a licensed balloon pilot.

At 20, he will be among the youngest to launch when the fiesta kicks off with its first mass ascension.

More than 580 pilots and their teams are registered, representing 41 U.S. states and 17 countries. Organizers are expecting several hundred thousand visitors



Elijah Sanchez monitors the inflation of hot air balloons operated by Rainbow Ryders in Albuquerque, N.M., on Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019.

over the course of the nine-day event.

"Being up in the air is just the most amazing feeling," Sanchez said. "It's a different experience every single time. It's just amazing seeing the beautiful scenery all around as the sun is coming up. And flying over the river, it's just amazing."

The wind patterns over Albuquerque create what pilots refer to as a box. The wind direction changes with altitude, meaning pilots can head toward the open desert beyond the Rio Grande and then circle back toward the Sandia Mountains and the launch field, giving passengers an unparalleled view.

It's just as spectacular from

the ground, where throngs of spectators surround the balloons as they lift off in waves.

From the balloons swaying directly overhead to those floating 1,000 feet (305 meters) in the air, the spray of colors is overwhelming.

Troy Bradley, an accomplished pilot who has been to more than 40 fiestas and is one of the ballooning world's most prolific record-setters, said the first day of the fiesta is always mind-blowing.

"I'm still in awe when I see that many balloons launching," Bradley said before jumping in his gondola. "There's just nothing like it in the world, to see that much color going into the sky and how well it's orchestrated. It's like a fine-tuned machine."

During the event, a team of referees directs traffic on the sprawling launch field, their sharp whistles letting pilots know when it's time to go or warning spectators to clear a path.

Another draw is the special-shaped balloons. There are more than 100 this year, from a family of giant bumble bees to Darth Vader, outlaw Billy the Kid and a massive spotted cow.

Albuquerque has hosted the fiesta since its humble inception in 1972. It has

grown from a gathering of only 13 balloons to a major production that infuses tens of millions of dollars into the economy.

Sanchez remembers his mother taking him to the fiesta every year when he was a boy.

They would hit the early

Associated Press



Elijah Sanchez starts a fan to inflating a hot air balloon in Albuquerque, N.M., on Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019.

Associated Press

morning ascensions and then the balloon glows at night.

When school was in session, he couldn't wait for the weekends to help crew for a commercial balloon operator. Summer was even better since he could crew every day.

"I just fell in love with the sport," he said.

Sanchez began studying for a battery of tests to earn his private pilot's license. More fun than driver's ed?

Definitely, he said.

He also worked four jobs to save up enough money to buy his own balloon.

"I was so blessed to have so many great influences to help me," he said.

The next milestone will be getting his commercial pilot's license, something he hopes to do over the next year.

Bradley said getting the next generation hooked is something he and other long-time pilots are working on. His own children started flying when they were young, with his son making headlines for being the world's youngest pilot at 9.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for them to get out and do something that's not sitting in front of a TV screen or in front of a computer playing games," he said.

"It's real-life experience out here. It's a team-building thing and it brings people together."

Bradley has flown with Sanchez on numerous occasions.

"He's a really good pilot," Bradley said. "It's exciting to see the new blood coming in."



A hot air balloon inflates in Albuquerque, N.M., on Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019.

Associated Press

Sanchez is surrounded by some of ballooning's rock stars, but he doesn't feel any pressure. To him, it's a chance to gain more knowledge.

Whether it's a question about his bright yellow balloon "Unity," the science behind flying or what it's like floating above the city, a big smile always precedes the answer.

"Just try it," Sanchez said. "It definitely should be on the bucket list." □